FLASH GORDON

10¢

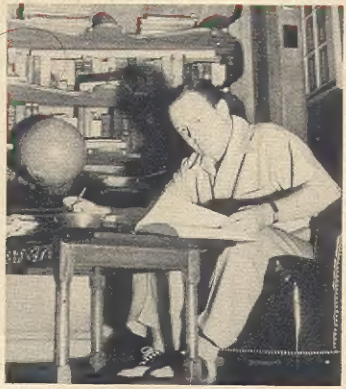
FOUR COLOR COMIC

No. 10

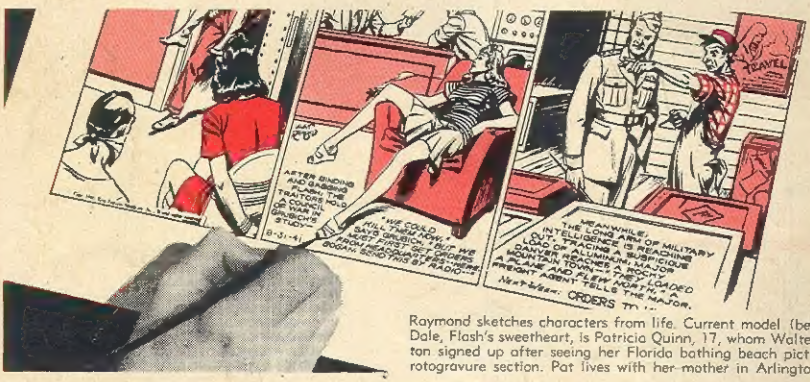
68 PAGES OF THRILLS
AND EXCITING ADVENTURE

Modern JULES VERNE

"Flash Gordon" is young, handsome, an athletic whirlwind in Jules Verne-like adventures. "Flash's" creator, Alex Raymond, is young, handsome. He got his higher education on an athletic scholarship. In boyhood, when his playmates had cowboy, detective or fireman second-selves, Alex had a dream existence encircling the world in 80 days, voyaging 20,000 leagues under the sea, hurtling space. That is, he grew up on Jules Verne's books. Nothing has given him more satisfaction than to be called "the modern Jules Verne."



Raymond has to have a large library for research, for no matter how fantastic the adventure, Flash's following, always ready with criticism, expect his machines and actions to be plausible and "possible."


AFTER BINDING AND GAGGING LARGE TRAITOR, POLO COMES TO AND FINDS HIMSELF STUCK!
8-31-40
I'VE COULD PUT THEM ON, BUT I'VE NOT BROKEN FIRST! BUT WE MUST GET ORDERS THROUGH TO CAPT. FLEET SOMEHOW! SOMEHOW SEND THIS BY RADIO!
MEANWHILE: THE LONE ARM OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE IS OUT! SLIGHTLY ARMED! A LOAD OF SPACINE IS REACHING A SUSPICIOUS MOUNTAIN REACHES! MAJOR PROUDE AND FLEET ARE LOADED A PLANE AND FLEET SET OUT! RIGHT ABOUT! TELLS THE MAJOR.
NEXT WEEK: ORDERS !!!
TRAVEL

Raymond sketches characters from life. Current model (below) for Dale, Flash's sweetheart, is Patricia Quinn, 17, whom Walter Thornton signed up after seeing her Florida bathing beach picture in a rotogravure section. Pat lives with her mother in Arlington, N. J.

Pat, who's seeing how she'll look in the funny papers, her posing period over, is a "Blondie" strip fan. She also models for style magazines.

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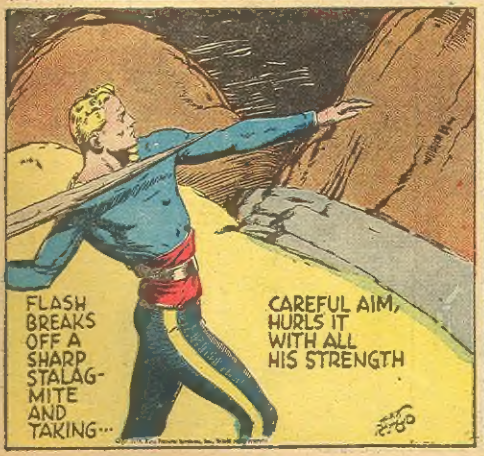
FLASH GORDON

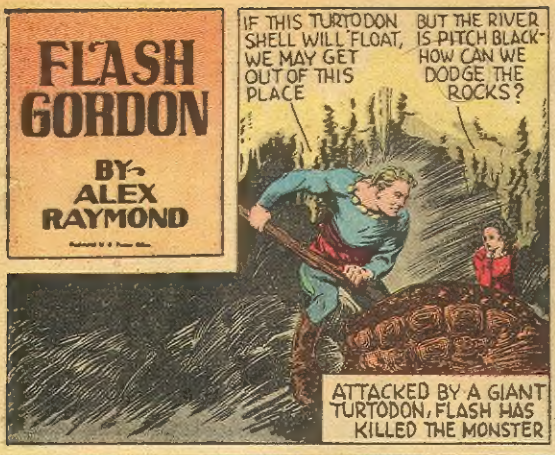
BY ALEX RAYMOND

THEY FOLLOW A WILL-O-THE-WISP PHOSPHORESCENT LIGHT DOWN WINDING PASSAGEWAYS
SORRY, DALE, BUT I'M LOST
I HOPE WE FIND THE RIVER AGAIN SOON... I'M SO THIRSTY



FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND


IF THIS TURTODON SHELL WILL FLOAT, WE MAY GET OUT OF THIS PLACE
BUT THE RIVER IS PITCH BLACK-HOW CAN WE DODGE THE ROCKS?
ATTACKED BY A GIANT TURTODON, FLASH HAS KILLED THE MONSTER

LOOK! WE'RE COMING OUT INTO THE OPEN AIR
YES··· AND THOSE PEOPLE MAY BE MING'S GUARDS! PUT OUT THE TORCH AND LIE FLAT···WE MAY SLIP BY UNSEEN
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BUT THE STRANGERS PROVE TO BE ZARKOV, BULOK AND CHONG
WAS ANYONE ELSE SAVED?
WE THOUGHT YOU WERE LOST!
NO. WE FLOATED OUT ON THE WRECKAGE, BUT NOW WE'RE SAFE IN BARIN'S COUNTRY

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

"WHY, YOU'RE FLASH GORDON! BUT WE HEARD THAT MING'S AIR FLEET HAD DESTROYED ALL OF YOU····
"I'M GLAD MING THINKS SO, CAPTAIN. TAKE US TO YOUR KING"

WHILE THE OFFICER REMAINS BEHIND, TO CONTACT KING BARIN BY VISA-PHONE, FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS ARE BORNE TO THE GREAT TREE HIGHWAYS

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FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

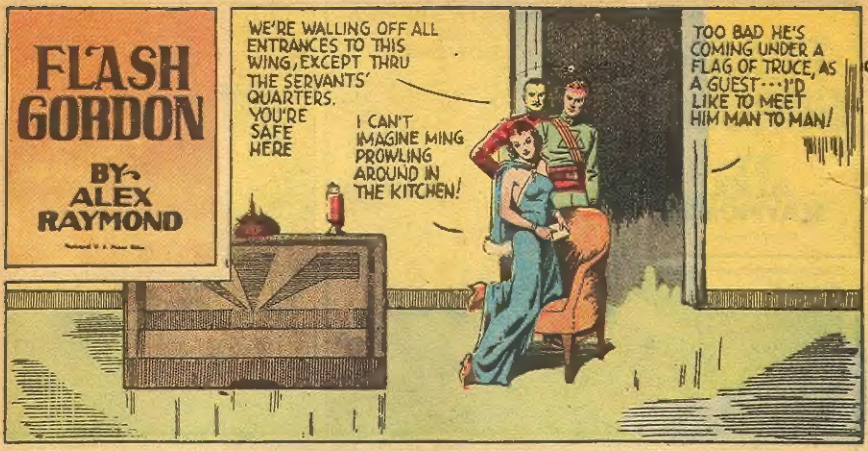
WHY, BARIN, YOU'VE LET YOUR HAIR GROW! YOU'RE HANDSOMER THAN EVER!
THANKS, DALE. I'VE ENDED MING'S RULE OF SHAVED HEADS FOR MEN
FLASH AND DALE FIND A HAVEN WITH BARIN, AURA AND THEIR YEAR OLD SON

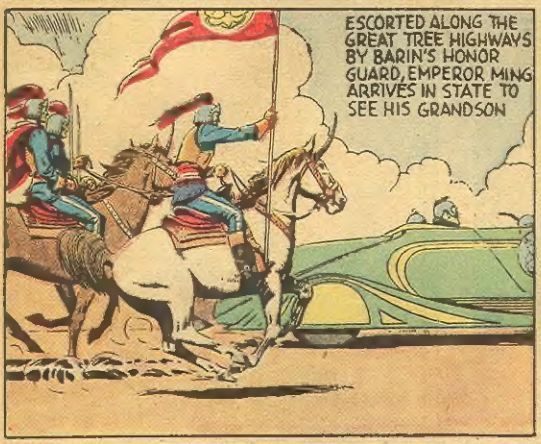
LATER A BANQUET IS HELD FOR FLASH AND DALE
YOU'RE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN I HAD HEARD!
OH THANK YOU
DALE, MAY I PRESENT MY COUSIN, PRINCE RONAL?

DALE AND I WILL LEAVE NOW BARIN TO AVOID EMBARRASSING YOU
NEVER! MY PALACE IS LARGE ENOUGH, SO I CAN ENTERTAIN YOU SAFELY DURING THIS INCONVENIENT VISIT

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND


WE'RE WALLING OFF ALL ENTRANCES TO THIS WING, EXCEPT THRU THE SERVANTS' QUARTERS. YOU'RE SAFE HERE
I CAN'T IMAGINE MING PROWLING AROUND IN THE KITCHEN!
TOO BAD HE'S COMING UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE, AS A GUEST··· I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM MAN TO MAN!



I SEE, BARIN, THAT YOU'VE DEFIED MY ORDERS THAT NO MAN IN MONGO MAY LET HIS HAIR GROW!
JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE BALD, IS NO GOOD REASON WHY WE ARBORIANS SHOULD GO HAIRLESS!
PLEASE, FATHER, I WANTED MY HUSBAND TO LOOK HANDSOME

FATHER, WHY THIS SUDDEN DESIRE TO SEE MY SON? CERTAINLY, YOUR INTEREST IS NOT SENTIMENTAL!
HM-M- HE LOOKS HEALTHY···
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SENTIMENT? BAH! I INTEND TO TAKE YOUR SON AWAY FROM ALL PARENTAL CARE AND PLACE HIM UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF MY GENERALS SO THAT SOME DAY HE MAY SUCCEED ME
NO--NO! NEVER! UGH! YOU'RE POSITIVELY INHUMAN!

FLASH GORDON
BY ALEX RAYMOND
YOU WOULD TAKE MY BABY FROM ME AND MOLD HIM INTO A COLD HEARTLESS MACHINE! NEVER, FATHER... I'D DIE FIRST!
BUT THE CHILD MUST BE TRAINED TO RULE MONGO! PARENTAL CARE WOULD MAKE HIM WEAK!
WE INTEND TO TRAIN OUR OWN SON... IN THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE AS EXEMPLIFIED BY FLASH GORDON
HIS BELIEFS HAVE BROUGHT HIM DEATH, BARIN... HEED WELL HIS FATE!
ONE OF MING'S COURTIERS BLUNDERS INTO FLASH'S HIDDEN QUARTERS
HA! BARIN SHOWS FINE TASTE IN SERVANTS! COME, NOW- A KISS!
FLASH'S SLEDGE-HAMMER FISTS SENDS THE AMOROUS OFFICER SPINNING TO THE FLOOR!
KING BARIN, I DEMAND SATISFACTION! SOMEONE STRUCK ME... IN THE SERVANTS QUARTERS!
SERVES YOU RIGHT- YOU HAD NO BUSINESS THERE!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! I'LL NOT STAY WHERE I AND MY MEN ARE INSULTED! HAVE YOUR MEN ESCORT ME TO THE BORDER!
WITH PLEASURE, SIRE!
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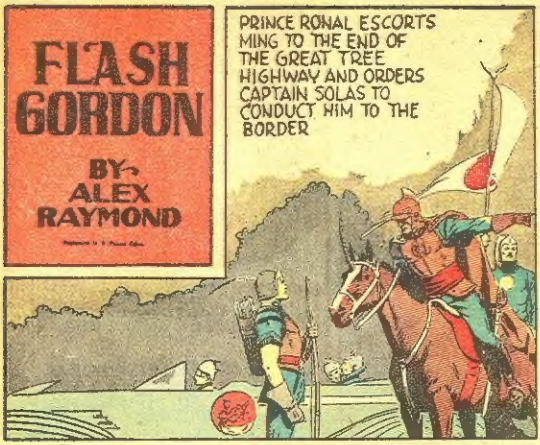
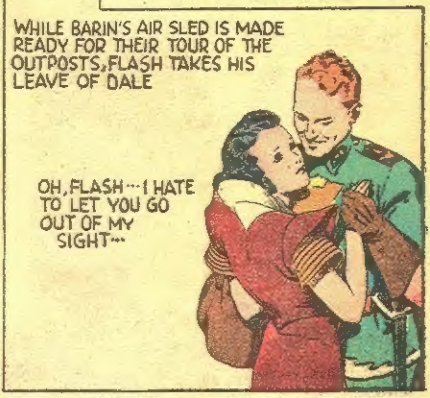
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND



I THINK THIS MEANS WAR!
NO, EVEN THOUGH MING HAS NO LOVE FOR AURA'S CHILD, HE WOULDN'T RISK KILLING HIS HEIR. BUT WE SHOULD WARN ALL OUTPOSTS AGAINST MING OR SOME OF HIS MEN, RETURNING


WHILE BARIN'S AIR SLED IS MADE READY FOR THEIR TOUR OF THE OUTPOSTS, FLASH TAKES HIS LEAVE OF DALE
OH, FLASH··· I HATE TO LET YOU GO OUT OF MY SIGHT···

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

SUDDENLY, THE AIR-SLED GOES INTO A DIVE···
S.O.S. WE ARE FALLING··· OUT OF CONTROL! OUR LIQUID-AIR MOTOR HAS BROKEN DOWN···· MAY HAVE BEEN TAMPERED WITH····

IN BARIN'S PALACE···
HIS MAJESTY AND FLASH GORDON CRASHED IN THE FOREST NORTHWEST OF HERE!
GO TO THE RESCUE AT ONCE, CAPTAIN SOLAS!
OH, RONAL··· TAKE ME TO FLASH!

FLASH GORDON
BY ALEX RAYMOND
WITH HEAVY HEARTS, DALE, AURA AND RONAL SET OUT TO SEARCH FOR FLASH AND BARIN, WHO HAVE CRASHED IN THE DEADLY ARBORIAN JUNGLE
AND FLASH, BRUISED
FROM THE WRECKED AIR
NO SOONER IS FLASH AT A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE WRECKAGE, THAN IT EXPLODES WITH A ROAR!
WHILE TRYING TO REVIVE BARIN, FLASH HEARS A SNARL. TURNING, HE FACES A DREAD TREE TIGER!
MEANTIME, SPIES STALK CAPTAIN SOLAS AND HIS RESCUE EXPEDITION. WAVING HIS MEN ON, SOLAS STOPS TO CHECK HIS POSITION

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

MING'S SPIES HAVE CAPTURED CAPTAIN SOLAS, NOT KNOWING THAT HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO RESCUE FLASH AND BARIN FROM A WRECKED AIR-SLED. A ROCKET PLANE WAITS IN A GREAT CLEARING TO CARRY THEM TO MING'S CAPITAL

MING WILL GET NO INFORMATION FROM ME, MAJOR LINGAN!

NO? MING IS DETERMINED TO HAVE A GRAND SON. WE HAVE CLEVER WAYS OF MAKING PEOPLE TALK, CAPTAIN SOLAS!

MEANWHILE FLASH AND THE UNCONSCIOUS BARIN ARE ATTACKED BY A TERROT

FLASH'S BLADE IS DEFLECTED BY THE DIFFICULT ANGLE OF THE HURTLING BEAST'S BODY

···FLASH HAS IT LOCKED IN A DEADLY GRIP··· HIS GREAT TORSO MUSCLES, STRAINING MIGHTILY, BURST OPEN THE SEAMS OF HIS TUNIC!

NOW RECOVERED, BARIN STARES IN AMAZEMENT AT THE RESULT OF FLASH'S SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH. THE TERROR OF THE TREES IS DEAD, IT'S NECK BROKEN!

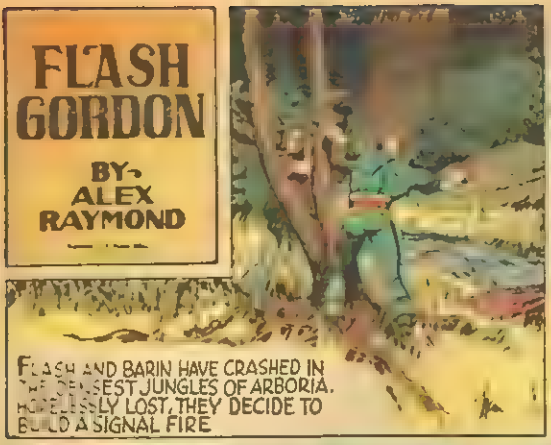
AND OVER THEIR VERY HEADS, DALE, AURA, AND RONAL HUNT THEM IN VAIN

NO TRACE OF THE CRASH··· THEY COULD BE ANYWHERE

WE MUST FIND THEM··· WE MUST!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

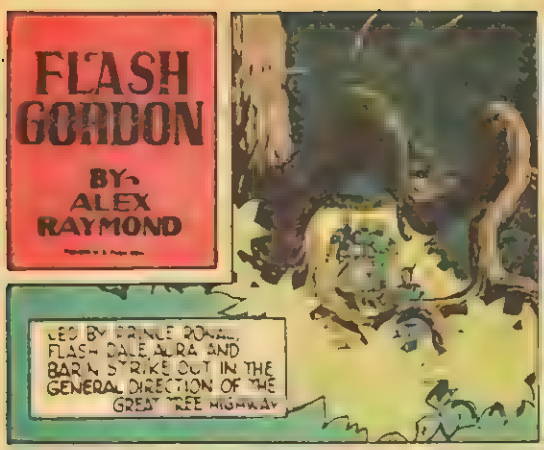


BY BURNING GREEN LOGS, THEY SEND A TOWERING COLUMN OF SMOKE UP THRU THE GIANT TREES
I HOPE THAT THIS DOESN'T ATTRACT MING'S SHIPS INSTEAD OF OURS

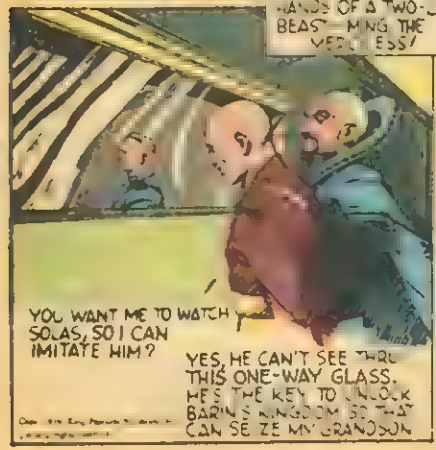
LOOK, DALE--SMOKE! THEIR SHIP MAY BE BURNING! ARE YOU AND AURA GAME TO TRY TO DIVE THRU THE TREES?
OH, YES, RONAL! ANYTHING WE MUST REACH THEM!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND



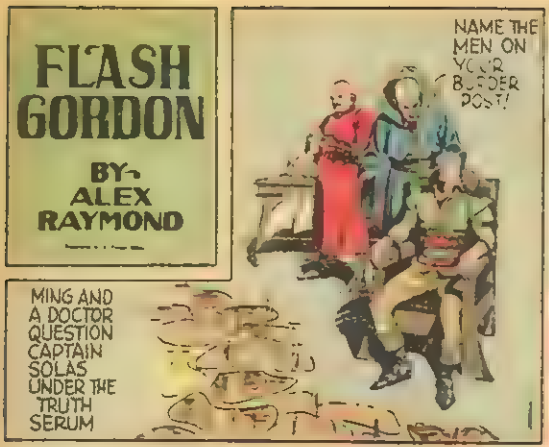
EXCELLENT SHOOTING SOLDIER! WHO IS YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER?
CAPTAIN SOLAS, SIRE, WE WERE SEARCHING FOR YOU AND FLASH GORDON WHEN A WILD BEAST OR SOMETHING CARRIED THE CAPTAIN OFF

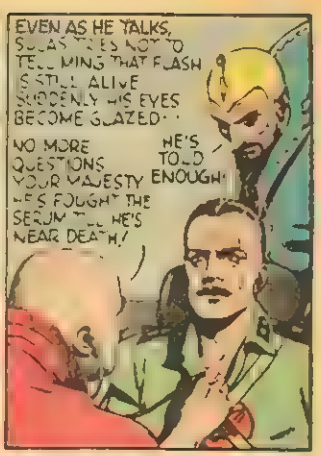

BUT SOLAS IS IN THE HANDS OF A TWO-LEGGED BEAST—MING THE MERCILESS!
YOU WANT ME TO WATCH SOLAS, SO I CAN IMITATE HIM?
YES, HE CAN'T SEE THRU THIS ONE-WAY GLASS. HE'S THE KEY TO UNLOCK BARIN'S KINGDOM SO THAT CAN SEIZE MY GRANDSON

LATER, WHEN MING AND ONE OF HIS DOCTORS ENTER HIS CELL CAPTAIN SOLAS REALIZES THAT HE MAY BE TRICKED INTO REVEALING THE SECRET THAT FLASH IS ALIVE!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND



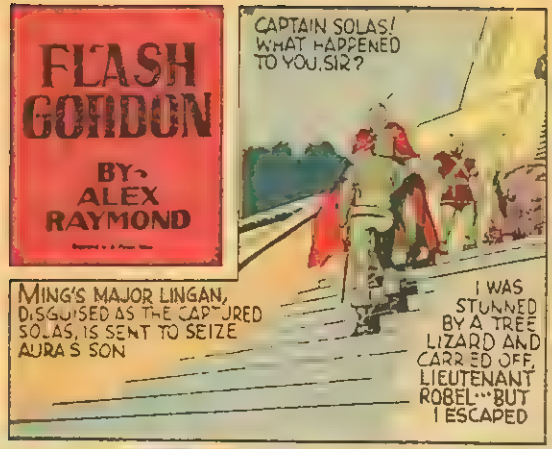

EVEN AS HE TALKS, SOLAS SEES NOT TO TELL MING THAT FLASH IS STILL ALIVE SUDDENLY HIS EYES BECOME GLAZED..
NO MORE QUESTIONS YOUR MAJESTY HE'S FOUGHT THE SERUM TILL HE'S NEAR DEATH!
HE'S TOLD ENOUGH!

A MAKE-UP ARTIST, WORKING FROM PHOTOGRAPHS, DISGUISES MAJOR LINGAN AS CAPTAIN SOLAS
A ROCKET SHIP WILL CARRY YOU TO THE ARBORIAN BORDER. I WARN YOU MAJOR. DON'T COME BACK WITHOUT MY GRANDSON!

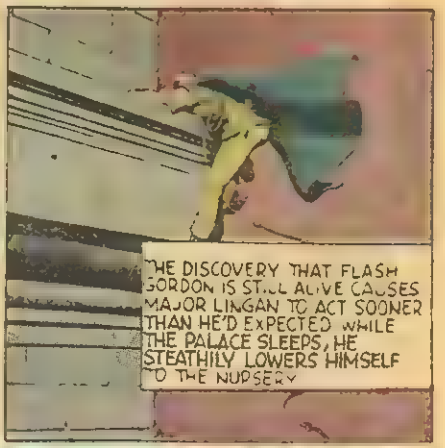
GAILY THEY ENTER THE ELEVATOR CARS HAPPY TO HAVE ESCAPED THE PERILS OF THE DEADLY JUNGLE, UNAWARE THAT TRAGEDY STALKS THEM IN THE PERSON OF MAJOR LINGAN

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND


CAPTAIN SOLAS! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, SIR?
I WAS STUNNED BY A TREE LIZARD AND CARRED OFF, LIEUTENANT ROBEL··· BUT I ESCAPED
MING'S MAJOR LINGAN, DISGUISED AS THE CAPTURED SOLAS, IS SENT TO SEIZE AURA'S SON

WE WERE JUST GOING OUT TO SEARCH, SIRE, WHEN CAPTAIN SOLAS WALKED UP
GOOD! ASK HIM TO REPORT TO ME AT THE PALACE AT ONCE
HA! I HADN'T HOPED FOR THIS


THE DISCOVERY THAT FLASH GORDON IS STILL ALIVE CAUSES MAJOR LINGAN TO ACT SOONER THAN HE'D EXPECTED WHILE THE PALACE SLEEPS, HE STEATHILY LOWERS HIMSELF TO THE NURSERY

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

LINGAN DISGUISED AS BARIN'S CAPTAIN SOLAS, IS SENT TO STEAL THE HEIR TO MING'S THRONE WHEN FLASH GRAPPLES WITH THE INTRUDER. BARIN GRASPS A HEAVY LAMP AND RUSHES TO HIS AID

BUT IN THE DARKNESS, THE GRAPPLING FIGURES PROVE A POOR TARGET. FLASH DROPS UNDER BARIN'S BLOW AND LINGAN LEAPS THRU THE WINDOW, GRASPS THE ROPE, AND SWINGS UP THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING

WELL, I MANAGED TO HANG ON TO THE BARIN — A SHOULDER-STRAP FROM A CAPTAIN'S UNIFORM!

THE TRAITOR! I'LL ORDER AN INSPECTION OF ALL CAPTAIN'S AT ONCE!

LINGAN DISCOVERING HIS LOSS, RUSHES INTO THE OFFICERS' QUARTERS AND SUBSTITUTES HIS TUNIC FOR THAT OF ANOTHER OFFICER

THIS MASK FROM YOUR POCKET AND YOUR MISSING SHOULDER-STRAP PROVE YOUR GUILT, CAPTAIN TURAN... IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT MING'S GOLD COULD BUY YOU

I SWEAR I'M NOT GUILTY, SIRE!

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE MAN, BARIN

I'M NOT, FLASH... THE TRAITOR IS STILL LOOSE

JUST THEN DALE ENTERS THE CELL CORRIDOR AND CALLS BARIN

FLASH GORDON
BY ALEX RAYMOND
BARIN, I THINK I HAVE IT/ LISTEN TO THIS··· WE'LL PUT THE BABY IN AURA'S ROOM
WHILE DALE COMFORTS THE SLEEPLESS — AURA FLASH AND BARIN RACK THEIR BRAINS FOR A PLAN TO TRAP THE WOULD-BE ABDUCTOR OF AURA'S CHILD
AS CAPTAIN SOLAS, STEALS IN
A JAILER AND TAKES HIS KEYS·
OUTSIDE THE NURSERY PRINCE RONAL STANDS GUARD. AT SIGHT OF
DRAWS HIS SWORD
A BOLT FROM A
AS LINGAN REACHES INTO THE CRADLE, IT EXPLODES, RELEASING AGONIZING TEAR-GAS FUMES··· LINGAN STAGGERS BACKWARD, TEARING OFF HIS MASK···
IS THAT YOU FLASH? CAN'T SEE YOU DID YOU GET TURAN? WAS JUST GRABBING HIM WHEN SOMETHING BLEW UP!
QUICK-THINKING LINGAN'S ALIBI IS BORNE OUT···
SEE? TURAN'S CELL IS UNLOCKED HE ESCAPED AND GOT BACK HERE!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

EITHER YOU, TURAN, OR YOU, SOLAS, ARE GUILTY OF ATTEMPTING TO ABDUCT LITTLE PRINCE ALAN. TOMORROW WE WILL TEST YOU WITH THE TRUTH DRUG!

BUT FLASH HAS LEFT BOTH CELL DOORS UNLOCKED, HOPING THAT THE TRAITOR WILL BETRAY HIMSELF BY ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE

HOURS LATER. THE WILY SOLAS (REALLY MING'S SPY, MAJOR LINGAN) STEALTHILY EMERGES FROM HIS CELL

...BUT THE OPENING OF THE CELL DOOR SETS OFF AN AUTOMATIC ALARM IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE WHERE FLASH WAITS

NUMBER TEN ·· SOLAS' CELL! ALL RIGHT, YOU TRAITOR. HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS! TURN OUT THE GUARD!

IMMEDIATELY BARIN'S SOLDIERS BLOCK THE PALACE CORRIDORS. BUT THEY HAVE NO DEFENSE AGAINST LINGAN'S MURDEROUS GAS-GUN

LINGAN RUSHES THRU THE PALACE, LEAVING DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN HIS WAKE. BY SETTING FIRE TO THE DRAPES AND FURNISHINGS HE HOPES TO DELAY PURSUIT

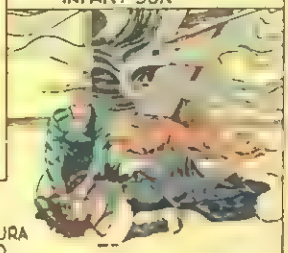
BUT FLASH DASHES RECKLESSLY THRU THE FLAMES···

...AND BATTERS HIS WAY INTO AURA'S CHAMBERS, TO FIND DALE AND AURA SPRAWLED ON THE FLOOR AND THE BABY GONE!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

MING'S SPY, LINGAN, DISGUISED AS SOLAS, HAS SET BARIN'S PALACE AFIRE TO COVER HIS ESCAPE WITH BARIN'S INFANT SON····

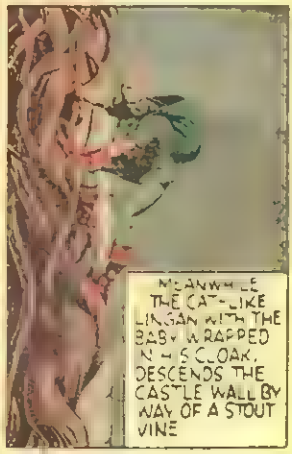


FLASH FINDS DALE AND AURA OVERCOME BY SMOKE AND THE BABY'S CRIB EMPTY. SOAKING CLOTHS IN WATER, HE TIES THEM OVER THE GIRLS' FACES

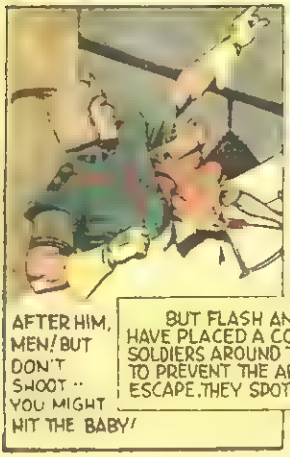
HE DOUSES HIMSELF AND THE GIRLS WITH WATER AND LIFTS THEM TO HIS SHOULDERS

··AND ONCE AGAIN DASHES THRU THE FLAMING CORRIDOR. BUT THERE IS A LIMIT TO FLASH'S ENDURANCE- HE STARTS TO REEL AND STUMBLES····

CONSCIOUSNESS SLIPS FROM HIM AS HE STAGGERS OUT OF THE FLAMES INTO THE ARMS OF A SQUAD OF BARIN'S FIRE-FIGHTERS

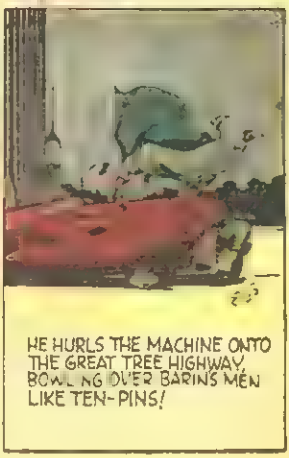


MEANWHILE THE CAT-LIKE LINGAN WITH THE BABY WRAPPED IN HIS CLOAK, DESCENDS THE CASTLE WALL BY WAY OF A STOUT VINE



AFTER HIM, MEN! BUT DON'T SHOOT ·· YOU MIGHT HIT THE BABY!

BUT FLASH AND BARIN HAVE PLACED A CORDON OF SOLDIERS AROUND THE PALACE TO PREVENT THE ABDUCTOR'S ESCAPE. THEY SPOT LINGAN···



HE HURLS THE MACHINE ONTO THE GREAT TREE HIGHWAY, BOWLING OVER BARIN'S MEN LIKE TEN-PINS!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

MING'S SPY, LINGAN DISGUISED AS CAPTAIN SOLAS HAS ESCAPED WITH BARIN'S SON AFTER SETTING FIRE TO HIS CASTLE

DR. ZARKOV AND BARIN REVIVE FLASH AFTER HE'D BEEN FELLED IN THE WHILE SAVING DALE AND ALAN FROM THE FLAMES

CALL FOR AN AIR-SLED, BARIN WE MUST GET SOLAS

PLEASE, FLASH YOU ARE IN NO CONDITION TO GO OUT.. YOU MUST REST!

LOOK BARIN THE ROCKET-CAR DESERTED! IT MUST MEAN THAT SOLAS HAS TAKEN TO THE TREES

AND FLASH IS RIGHT, BUT LINGAN, SWINGING ALONG ONE OF THE NARROW CAT-WALKS, HALTS AS A MAN APPROACHES.

THE REAL CAPTAIN SOLAS, FINDS HIMSELF FACE TO FACE WITH HIS DOUBLE

SO, YOU'VE ABDUCTED LITTLE PRINCE ALAN! THROW THAT GUN AWAY, SOLAS OR I'LL SHOOT THE BABY!

GREAT SCOT BARIN THE RAGGED MAN MUST BE THE REAL SOLAS THE OTHER MAN, A SPY! LOOK! HE'S POINTING THE GUN AT THE BABY AND SOLAS JUST THREW HIS GUN AWAY!

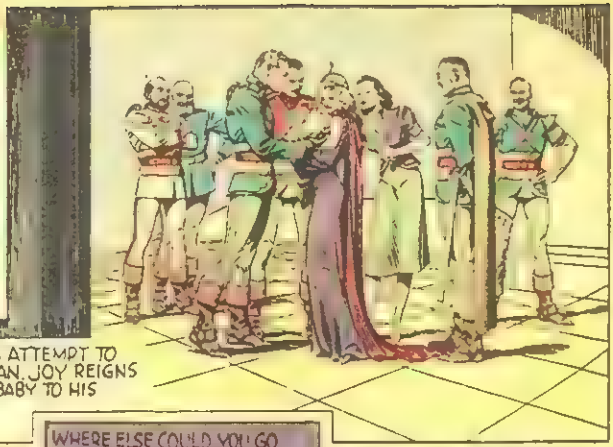
BUT FLASH.. YOU MIGHT HIT THE BABY!

THIS IS A HARD SHOT, BARIN, BUT IT IS THE ONLY WAY! IF WE TRAP HIM HE'LL KILL EITHER US OR YOUR SON! I HOPE SOLAS KEEPS HIS WITS ABOUT HIM!

FLASHES ARROW FLIES STRAIGHT AND TRUE SOLAS CATCHES LINGAN BEFORE HE CAN TOPPLE OFF THE CAT-WALK WITH THE BABY IN HIS ARMS

FLASH GORDON

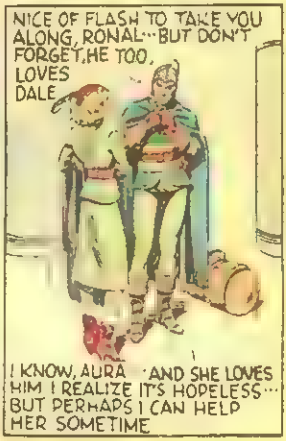
BY ALEX RAYMOND

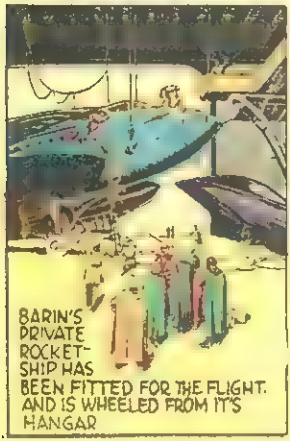


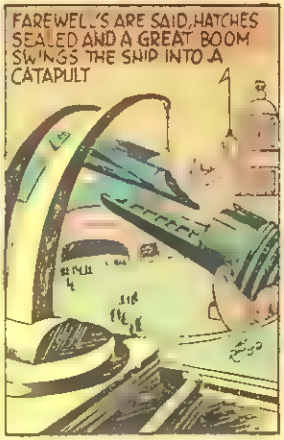
FLASH HAS FOILED MING'S ATTEMPT TO ABDUCT LITTLE PRINCE ALAN, JOY REIGNS AS FLASH RETURNS THE BABY TO HIS MOTHER'S ARMS

CAPTAIN SOLAS DRAWS FLASH TO ONE SIDE··
FLASH, MING KNOWS THAT YOU'RE ALIVE!
THEN MING WILL ATTACK BARIN TO GET ME THERE CAN'T BE A WAR ON MY ACCOUNT!

WHERE ELSE COULD YOU GO AND BE AMONG FRIENDS, FLASH? WE'D FIGHT MING A DOZEN TIMES RATHER THAN HAVE YOU GO!
I APPRECIATE THAT, BARIN BUT YOU AREN'T EQUIPPED TO FIGHT MING··· IT WOULD BE SENSELESS SLAUGHTER! BESIDES I WANT TO EXPLORE THE UNKNOWN NORTHLAND

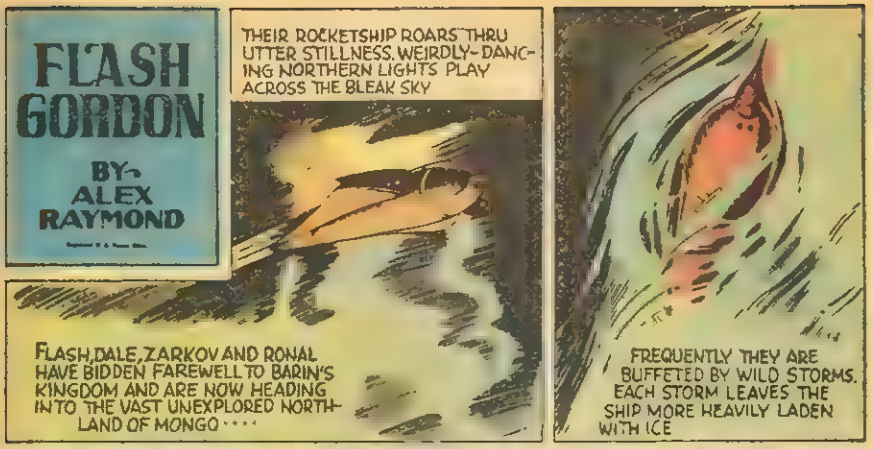

NICE OF FLASH TO TAKE YOU ALONG, RONAL··· BUT DON'T FORGET, HE TOO, LOVES DALE
I KNOW, AURA · AND SHE LOVES HIM! I REALIZE IT'S HOPELESS··· BUT PERHAPS I CAN HELP HER SOMETIME

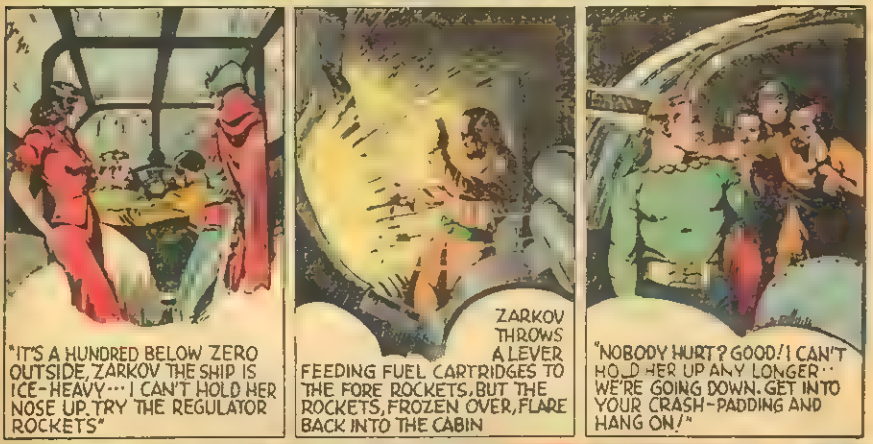


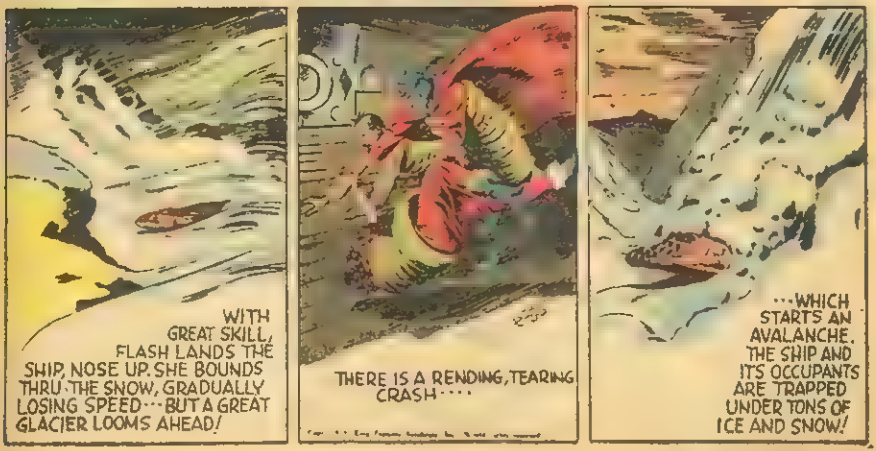


FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND


THEIR ROCKETSHIP ROARS THRU UTTER STILLNESS. WEIRDLY-DANCING NORTHERN LIGHTS PLAY ACROSS THE BLEAK SKY
FLASH, DALE, ZARKOV AND RONAL HAVE BIDDEN FAREWELL TO BARIN'S KINGDOM AND ARE NOW HEADING INTO THE VAST UNEXPLORED NORTHLAND OF MONGO····
FREQUENTLY THEY ARE BUFFETED BY WILD STORMS. EACH STORM LEAVES THE SHIP MORE HEAVILY LADEN WITH ICE

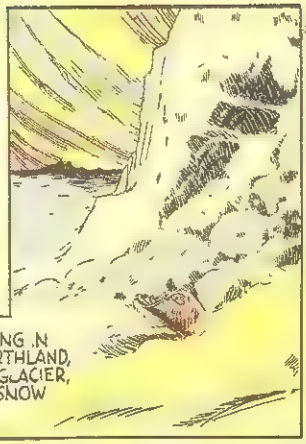

"IT'S A HUNDRED BELOW ZERO OUTSIDE, ZARKOV THE SHIP IS ICE-HEAVY··· I CAN'T HOLD HER NOSE UP. TRY THE REGULATOR ROCKETS"
ZARKOV THROWS A LEVER FEEDING FUEL CARTRIDGES TO THE FORE ROCKETS, BUT THE ROCKETS, FROZEN OVER, FLARE BACK INTO THE CABIN
"NOBODY HURT? GOOD! I CAN'T HOLD HER UP ANY LONGER·· WE'RE GOING DOWN. GET INTO YOUR CRASH-PADDING AND HANG ON!"


WITH GREAT SKILL, FLASH LANDS THE SHIP, NOSE UP. SHE BOUNDS THRU THE SNOW, GRADUALLY LOSING SPEED··· BUT A GREAT GLACIER LOOMS AHEAD!
THERE IS A RENDING, TEARING CRASH····
···WHICH STARTS AN AVALANCHE. THE SHIP AND ITS OCCUPANTS ARE TRAPPED UNDER TONS OF ICE AND SNOW!

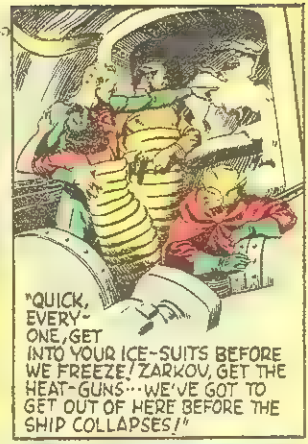
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

Registered U. S. Patent Office

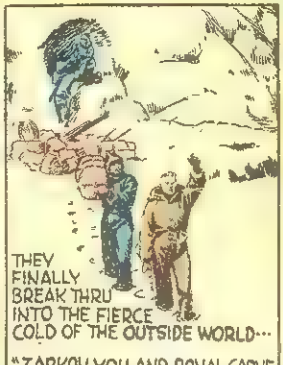


IN MAKING A FORCED LANDING IN MONGO'S UNEXPLORED NORTHLAND, FLASH CRASHES AGAINST A GLACIER, BRINGING TONS OF ICE AND SNOW DOWN ON HIS SHIP



"QUICK, EVERY-ONE, GET INTO YOUR ICE-SUITS BEFORE WE FREEZE! ZARKOV, GET THE HEAT-GUNS··· WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE SHIP COLLAPSES!"

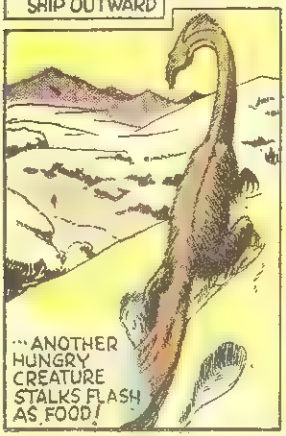
WITH THEIR PISTOL-LIKE HEAT-GUNS, THEY START BORING A CIRCULAR TUNNEL FROM THEIR IMPRISONED ROCKET SHIP OUTWARD



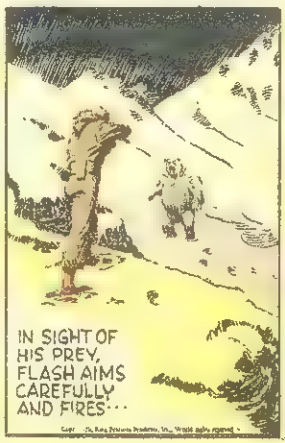
THEY FINALLY BREAK THRU INTO THE FIERCE COLD OF THE OUTSIDE WORLD···

"ZARKOV, YOU AND RONAL CARVE A SHELTER IN THE FACE OF THAT GLACIER WHILE I HUNT SOME FRESH MEAT"

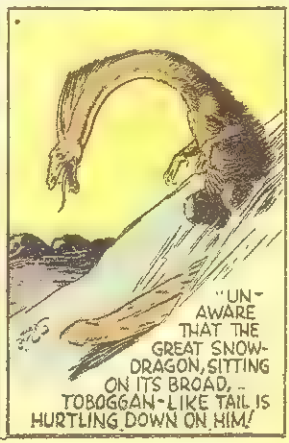
HOURS LATER, WHILE FLASH IS BUSILY TRAILING AN ICE-BEAR···



···ANOTHER HUNGRY CREATURE STALKS FLASH AS FOOD!



IN SIGHT OF HIS PREY, FLASH AIMS CAREFULLY AND FIRES···



"UN-AWARE THAT THE GREAT SNOW-DRAGON, SITTING ON ITS BROAD, TOBOGGAN-LIKE TAIL IS HURTLING DOWN ON HIM!

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FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

STRANDED IN THE ICY NORTH, FLASH IS ATTACKED BY A SNOW-DRAGON, JUST AS HE SHOOTS AN ICE-BEAR.

AS THE MONSTER, SEATED ON ITS BROAD, TOBOGGAN-LIKE TAIL, HURTLES DOWN ON HIM, FLASH DROPS TO HIS KNEE, TAKES COOL AIM, AND FIRES

ENCUMBERED BY HIS SNOW-SHOES, FLASH IS UNABLE TO DODGE THE DYING BEAST'S ONRUSHING BODY

THEY CRASH AGAINST THE BASE OF A CLIFF. FLASH DAZEDLY STRUGGLES FROM BENEATH THE DRAGON, HIS SHOULDER LACERATED AND BLEEDING

HE STANCHES HIS BLOOD WITH SNOW, THEN SEVERS THE DRAGON'S TAIL. TO THIS HE LASHES RAWHIDE STRIPS

WITH THE ICE-BEAR'S BODY LOADED ONTO HIS IMPROVISED SLED, FLASH STARTS THE LONG TREK BACK TO HIS WAITING FRIENDS

MUCH LATER, A HARDY TROOP, LED BY A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, GLIDES ALONG FLASH'S TRAIL. THEIR ATHLETIC BODIES ARE SHIELDED FROM THE COLD BY A LIGHT, TRANSPARENT GARB, WHICH COVERS THEM FROM HEAD TO FOOT

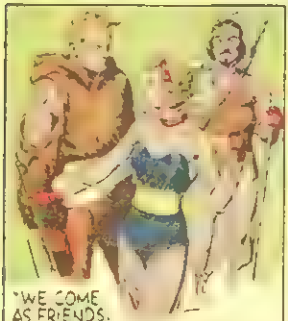
A WILD, CLEAR YELL CUTS THE ICY STILLNESS····FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS DROP THE REMAINDER OF THEIR BEAR MEAT FEAST AND SCRAMBLE TO THE ENTRANCE OF THEIR GLACIER DUGOUT.

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

IN ANSWER TO A RINGING CHALLENGE FROM WITHOUT, FLASH, [illegible] THEIR GLACIER HIDEOUT, TO FIND THEMSELVES TRAPPED BY A BAND OF HARDY NORTHMEN, LED BY A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.

"I'M GOING DOWN AND SPEAK TO HER, ZARKOV, WE WANT TO MAKE FRIENDS IF POSSIBLE"



"WE COME AS FRIENDS. I AM FLASH GORDON WHO ARE YOU?"

"FRIA QUEEN OF FRIGIA - I NEVER HEARD OF YOU··· CONSIDER YOURSELVES MY PRISONERS.

"WE COULD HAVE FOUGHT THEM OFF, FLASH! WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO DALE?"

RONAL, THEY ARE SO MANY WE WOULD HAVE NO CHANCE - AND NOBODY'S COME TO HARM DALE, NOT IF I KNOW IT"

A GREAT WINGED SERPENT, WATCHING THE APPROACHING PROCESSION, GATHERS ITSELF FOR AN ATTACK!

FLASH SHOUTS A WARNING AND WHIPS OUT A RAY-PISTOL FROM INSIDE HIS ICE-SUIT···

HE FIRES ONCE AND THE SNOW-SERPENT SEEMS TO BURST IN MID-AIR!

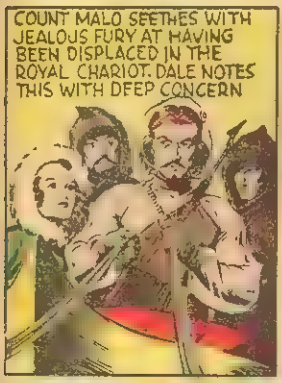
"THANK YOU, BUT WHERE DID YOU GET THE RAY-GUN? YOU PRETENDED TO BE UNARMED"

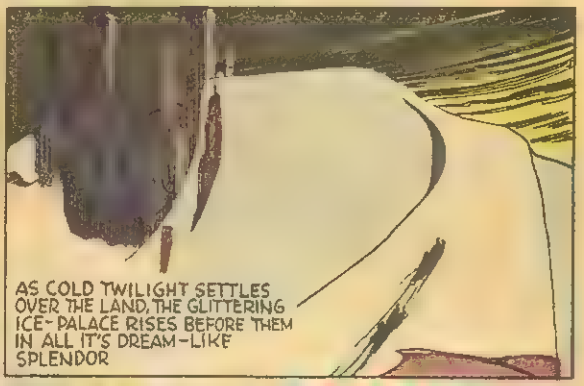
PRETENDED NOTHING - YOU SEE, WE ARE YOUR GUESTS··· NOT YOUR PRISONERS"

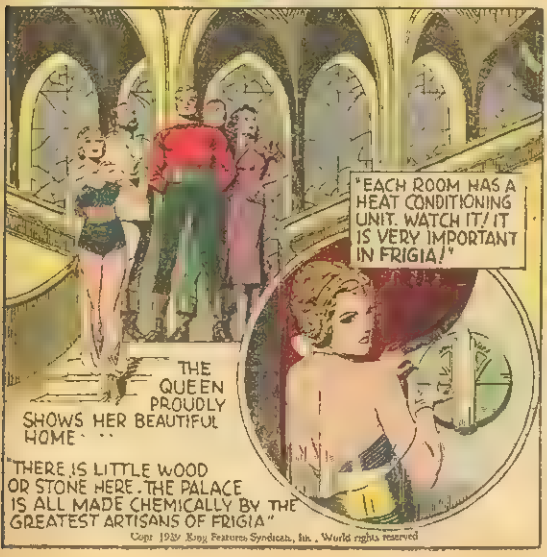
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

FLASH HAS SAVED THE LIFE OF QUEEN FRIA OF THE ICE WORLD. SHE HONORS HIM BY ASKING HIM TO DRIVE HER SNOW BIRD-DRAWN CHARIOT ON THE LONG DASH TO THE PALACE OF FRIGIA






"EACH ROOM HAS A HEAT CONDITIONING UNIT. WATCH IT! IT IS VERY IMPORTANT IN FRIGIA!"
THE QUEEN PROUDLY SHOWS HER BEAUTIFUL HOME · ·
"THERE IS LITTLE WOOD OR STONE HERE. THE PALACE IS ALL MADE CHEMICALLY BY THE GREATEST ARTISANS OF FRIGIA"

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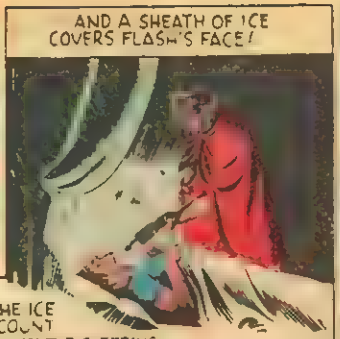
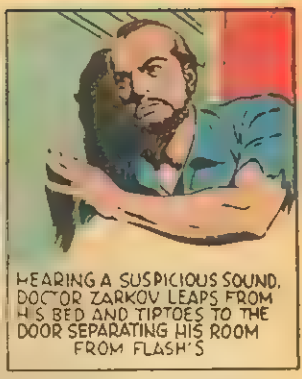
LATE THAT NIGHT, THE SINISTER COUNT MALO STEALS INTO FLASH'S ROOM. HIS RIGHT HAND HOLDS AN ICE-GUN. HIS LEFT SHUTS OFF THE VITAL HEAT-CONDITIONING UNIT!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND



TURNING OFF THE HEAT-CONDITIONING UNIT, SO THE ICE WON'T MELT, JEALOUS COUNT MALO AIMS HIS ICE-GUN AT THE SLEEPING FLASH. HE SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER··



HEARING A SUSPICIOUS SOUND, DOCTOR ZARKOV LEAPS FROM HIS BED AND TIPTOES TO THE DOOR SEPARATING HIS ROOM FROM FLASH'S

HE FLINGS OPEN THE DOOR AND A BEAM FROM MALO'S GUN TURNS HIS LEFT SHOULDER TO ICE!

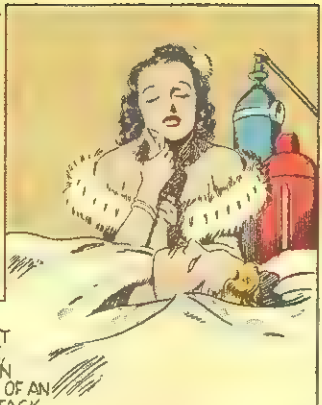
THE ASSASSIN MAKES HIS ESCAPE, AS ZARKOV PRESSES A BUTTON, CAUSING ALARM SIRENS TO WAIL THRUOUT THE PALACE

HALF-CRAZED WITH GRIEF AT SIGHT OF FLASH'S ICE-ENCASED BODY, DALE FLINGS HERSELF AT QUEEN FRIA, SOBBING··· "THIS IS ALL YOUR DOING, YOU WITCH!"
"YOU'RE HYSTERICAL, GIRL··· I LIKED HIM!"

HEAT MELTS THE ICE, BUT ALL STIMULANTS FAIL. THE QUEEN'S DOCTOR GIVES UP HOPE··· "NO USE··· HE'S FROZEN THRU!"
"TRY EVERY-THING. HE CAN'T DIE! TRY PENETRO-RAYS!" PLEADS ZARKOV

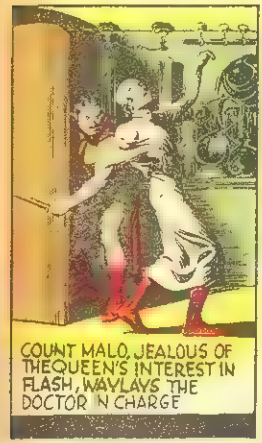
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

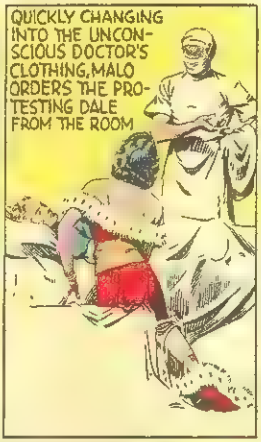


DALE MAINTAINS CONSTANT VIGIL AT FLASH'S BEDSIDE, AS HIS IRON CONSTITUTION FIGHTS OFF THE EFFECTS OF AN UNKNOWN ASSASSIN'S ATTACK

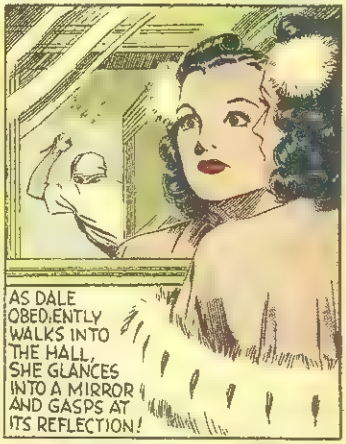
"HOW SHE MUST LOVE HIM! WELL, I CAN'T SAY THAT I BLAME HER. I WANT YOU DOCTORS TO GIVE HIM EVERY ATTENTION."



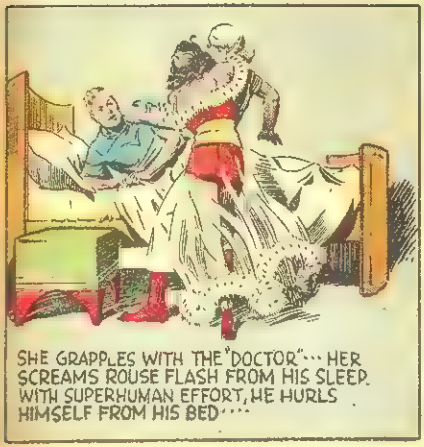
COUNT MALO, JEALOUS OF THE QUEEN'S INTEREST IN FLASH, WAYLAYS THE DOCTOR IN CHARGE



QUICKLY CHANGING INTO THE UNCONSCIOUS DOCTOR'S CLOTHING, MALO ORDERS THE PROTESTING DALE FROM THE ROOM



AS DALE OBEDIENTLY WALKS INTO THE HALL, SHE GLANCES INTO A MIRROR AND GASPS AT ITS REFLECTION!



SHE GRAPPLES WITH THE "DOCTOR"··· HER SCREAMS ROUSE FLASH FROM HIS SLEEP. WITH SUPERHUMAN EFFORT, HE HURLS HIMSELF FROM HIS BED····

MALO TEARS HIMSELF FROM FLASH'S WEAK GRASP AND FLEES IN TERROR FROM THIS MAN HE THOUGHT NEAR DEATH!

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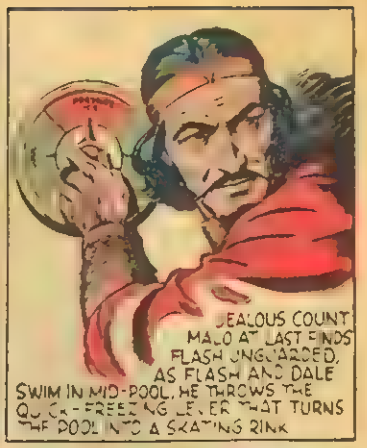
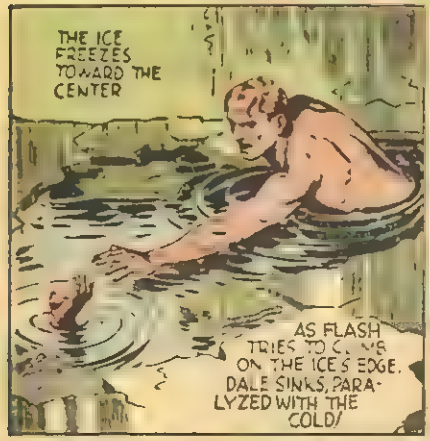
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH SPEEDS HIS RECOVERY AFTER THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION AT LAST HE IS READY FOR EXERCISE IN THE ICE-QUEEN'S INDOOR POOL



JEALOUS COUNT MALO AT LAST FINDS FLASH UNGUARDED, AS FLASH AND DALE SWIM IN MID-POOL, HE THROWS THE QUICK-FREEZING LEVER THAT TURNS THE POOL INTO A SKATING RINK



HOLDING HIS BREATH, FLASH MAKES A DESPERATE EFFORT TO SWIM THRU THE WATER BEFORE THE POOL FREEZES INTO AN ICE COFFIN
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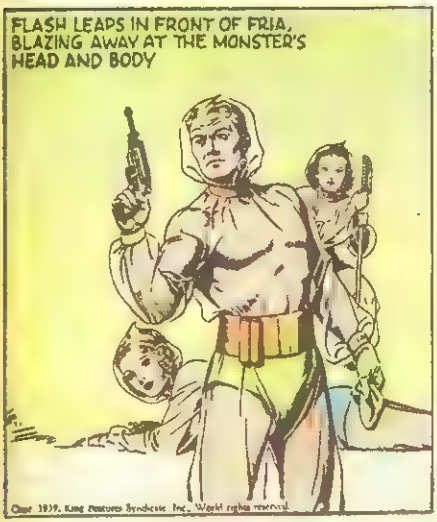
WITH HIS LUNGS ABOUT TO BURST, FLASH PUSHES THRU AN INSPECTION MANHOLE IN THE PUMPING STATION··· "QUICK, GET HOT BLANKETS FOR DALE!"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

COUNT MALO REPORTS TO QUEEN FRIA THAT HE CAN FIND NO CLUES TO THE MAN WHO TRIED TO KILL FLASH...

THE ICE QUEEN STUMBLES AND FALLS IN STOPPING TO HELP HER, MALO FALLS VICTIM TO ONE OR THE HIDEOUS CREATURES CLUTCHING TENTACLES


FLASH LEAPS IN FRONT OF FRIA, BLAZING AWAY AT THE MONSTER'S HEAD AND BODY
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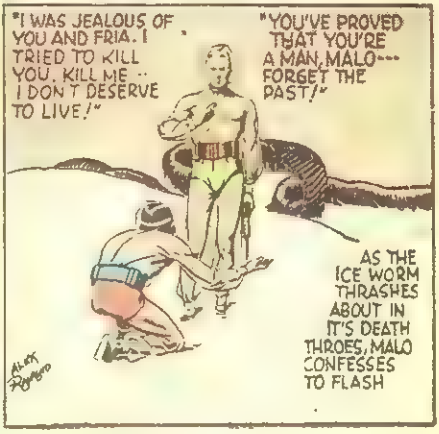
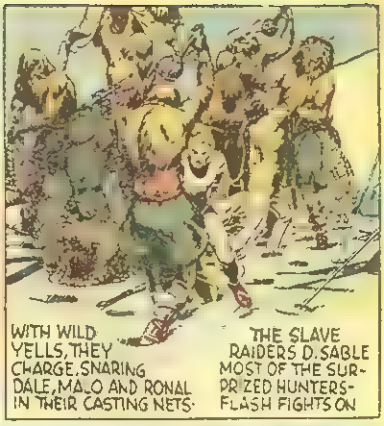

"I WAS JEALOUS OF YOU AND FRIA. I TRIED TO KILL YOU. KILL ME .. I DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE!"
"YOU'VE PROVED THAT YOU'RE A MAN, MALO--- FORGET THE PAST!"
AS THE ICE WORM THRASHES ABOUT IN IT'S DEATH THROES, MALO CONFESSES TO FLASH
ALEX RAYMOND

FLASH GORDON

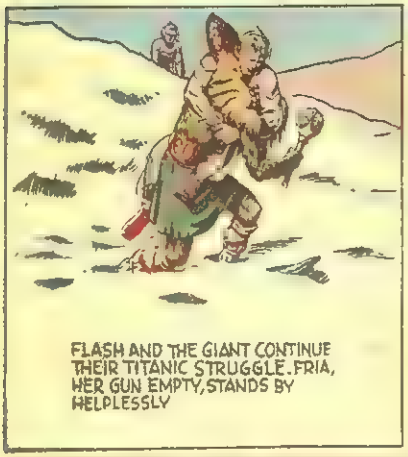
BY ALEX RAYMOND

FROM AMBUSH, A BAND OF HAIRY GIANTS WAITS TO RAID THE REMNANTS OF FLASH'S HUNTING PARTY

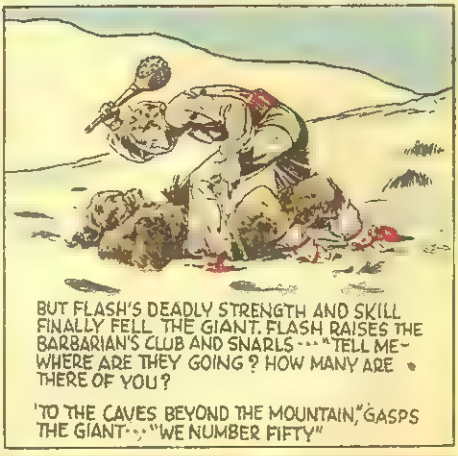


WITH WILD YELLS, THEY CHARGE, SNARING DALE, MALO AND RONAL IN THEIR CASTING NETS.

THE SLAVE RAIDERS DISABLE MOST OF THE SURPRIZED HUNTERS—FLASH FIGHTS ON

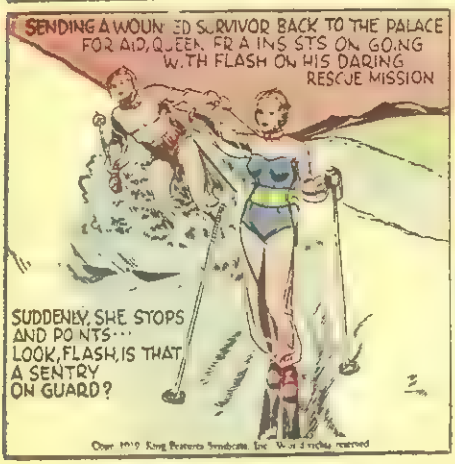


FLASH AND THE GIANT CONTINUE THEIR TITANIC STRUGGLE. FRIA, HER GUN EMPTY, STANDS BY HELPLESSLY



BUT FLASH'S DEADLY STRENGTH AND SKILL FINALLY FELL THE GIANT. FLASH RAISES THE BARBARIAN'S CLUB AND SNARLS··· "TELL ME—WHERE ARE THEY GOING? HOW MANY ARE THERE OF YOU?

"TO THE CAVES BEYOND THE MOUNTAIN," GASPS THE GIANT··· "WE NUMBER FIFTY"


SENDING A WOUNDED SURVIVOR BACK TO THE PALACE FOR AID, QUEEN FRIA INSISTS ON GOING WITH FLASH ON HIS DARING RESCUE MISSION
SUDDENLY, SHE STOPS AND POINTS··· LOOK, FLASH, IS THAT A SENTRY ON GUARD?

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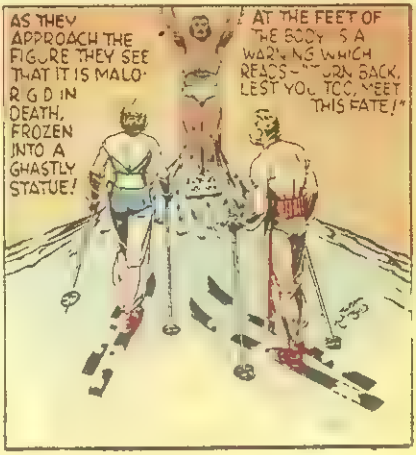
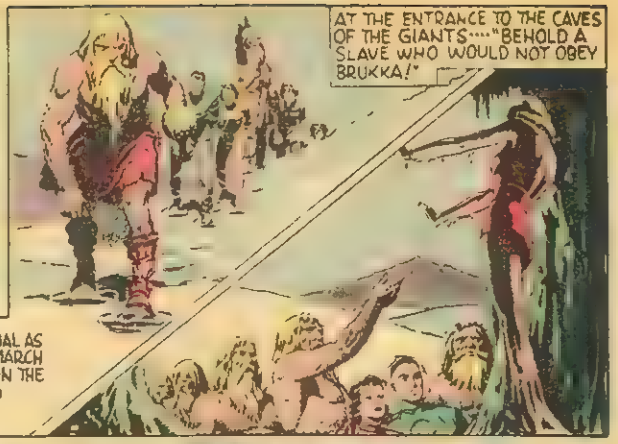
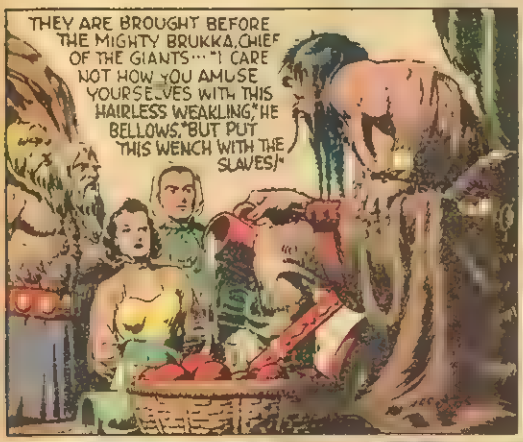

AS THEY APPROACH THE FIGURE THEY SEE THAT IT IS MALORGD IN DEATH, FROZEN INTO A GHASTLY STATUE!
AT THE FEET OF THE BODY IS A WARNING WHICH READS— "TURN BACK, LEST YOU, TOO, MEET THIS FATE!"

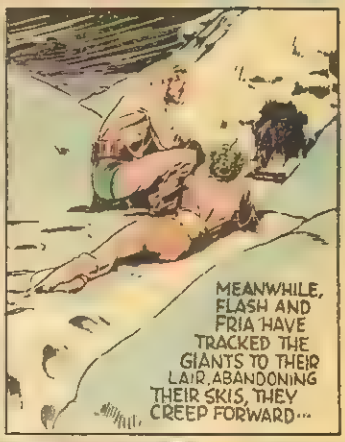
FLASH GORDON

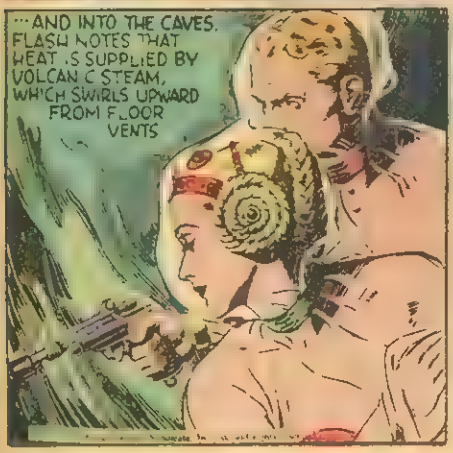
BY ALEX RAYMOND



HAVING SEIZED DALE AND RONAL AS SLAVES, THE HAIRY GIANTS MARCH THEM TOWARD THEIR HOME IN THE ICY WASTES OF THE MONGO NORTHLAND


THEY ARE BROUGHT BEFORE THE MIGHTY BRUKKA, CHIEF OF THE GIANTS··· "I CARE NOT HOW YOU AMUSE YOURSELVES WITH THIS HAIRLESS WEAKLING," HE BELLOWS, "BUT PUT THIS WENCH WITH THE SLAVES!"

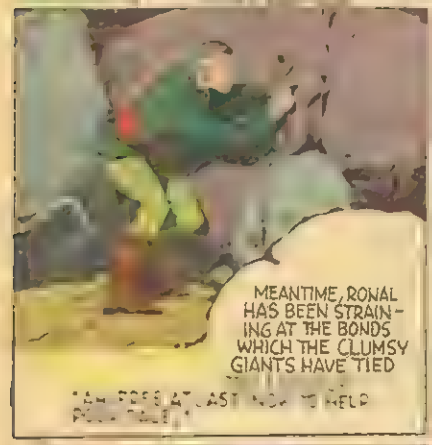


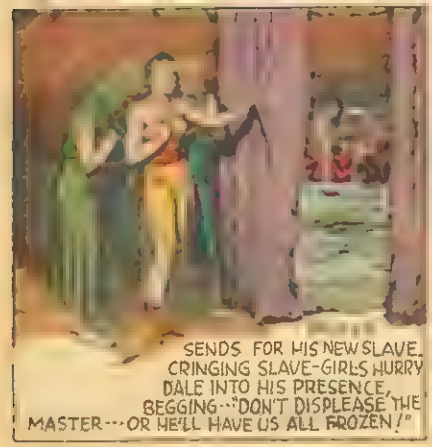


FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

QUEEN FRIA RUSH INTO THE LAIR OF THE IANTS TO RESCUE DALE!
A STEAMING CANYON IMPEDES THEIR PROGRESS AND A DRAWBRIDGE IS UP···
ANOTHER GIANT




SENDS FOR HIS NEW SLAVE. CRINGING SLAVE-GIRLS HURRY DALE INTO HIS PRESENCE, BEGGING···"DON'T DISPLEASE THE MASTER···OR HE'LL HAVE US ALL FROZEN!"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

DESPERATE TO RESCUE DALE FROM THE GIANTS, FLASH IS BARRED BY A GUARDED DRAWBRIDGE. SUDDENLY A GIANT COMES RUNNING UP.··· "HO, GUARD ··LET DOWN THE BRIDGE ··I'VE BEEN ATTACKED BY A HUMAN!"

DO YO··· THANK YOU CAN HOLD ON TO THE BRIDGE AS ··· ··· TO ··· CAN RUN BACK ··· ··· ··· BEEN ··· BY FLASH ANSWERED A

THEY DANGLE OVER THE FIERY CHASM AS THE GUARD RAISES THE DRAW-BRIDGE

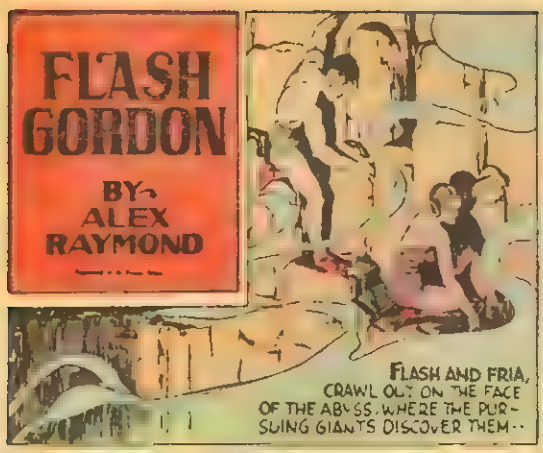
FROM THE TOP OF THE BRIDGE FLASH LANDS DOWN ON THE GIANT WHO HAS JUST CROSSED, BREAKING HIS NECK!

THE BRIDGE-KEEPER LEAVES HIS WINDLASS AND RUSHES AT FLASH, WHO, BY A JIU-JITSU TRICK, HURLS THE GIANT HEAD FIRST INTO THE ABYSS!

AT THAT MOMENT FOR A SHOT ··· ··· FOR THE ··· ··· GIANT'S ··· BRAIN ··· A MURDER OF HIS ··· OWN ···

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

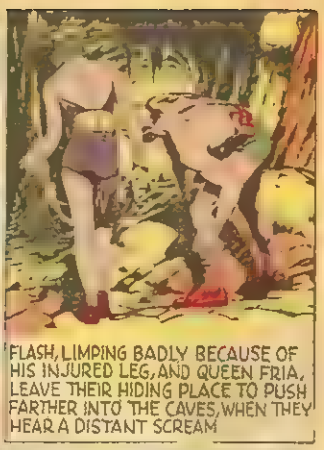


MEANWHILE, CHIEF BRUKKA CONTINUES TO FORCE HIS UNWELCOME ATTENTIONS ON DALE WHO DEMURELY BUT DESPERATELY PLAYS FOR TIME.

FLASH GORDON

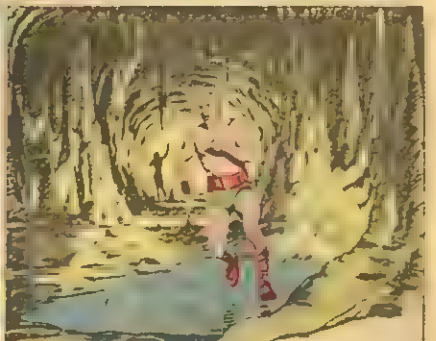
BY ALEX RAYMOND

DALE, HOPING FOR A CHANCE TO ESCAPE, TRIES TO VAMP THE GIANT, BRUKKA, BUT HE TERRIFIES HER INTO CRYING FOR HELP

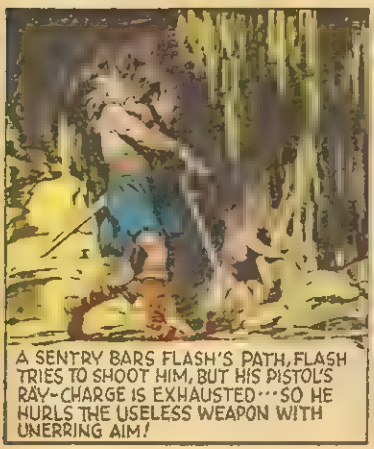


FLASH, LIMPING BADLY BECAUSE OF HIS INJURED LEG, AND QUEEN FRIA, LEAVE THEIR HIDING PLACE TO PUSH FARTHER INTO THE CAVES, WHEN THEY HEAR A DISTANT SCREAM

AGAIN THE SCREAM! FLASH'S MUSCLES GROW TAUT AND, AT THE EXPRESSION OF HIS FACE, FRIA CLUTCHES HIM, PLEADING··· DON'T DO IT FLASH! DON'T DO IT, FLASH! THEY'RE TOO MANY YOU'LL BE KILLED!



BUT DALE'S CRIES DRIVE FLASH BERSERK. BIDDING FRIA STAY HIDDEN, HE DASHED FORWARD, HEEDLESS OF HIS BADLY LEG. THE CAVES RESOUND TO HIS YELLS OF FURY!



A SENTRY BARS FLASH'S PATH, FLASH TRIES TO SHOOT HIM, BUT HIS PISTOL'S RAY-CHARGE IS EXHAUSTED··· SO HE HURLS THE USELESS WEAPON WITH UNERRING AIM!

FLASH'S MAD RUSH CARRIES HIM INTO BRUKKA'S THRONE-ROOM·· BUT THE WEIGHT AND NUMBER OF HIS GUARDS ARE TOO MUCH FOR EVEN FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH

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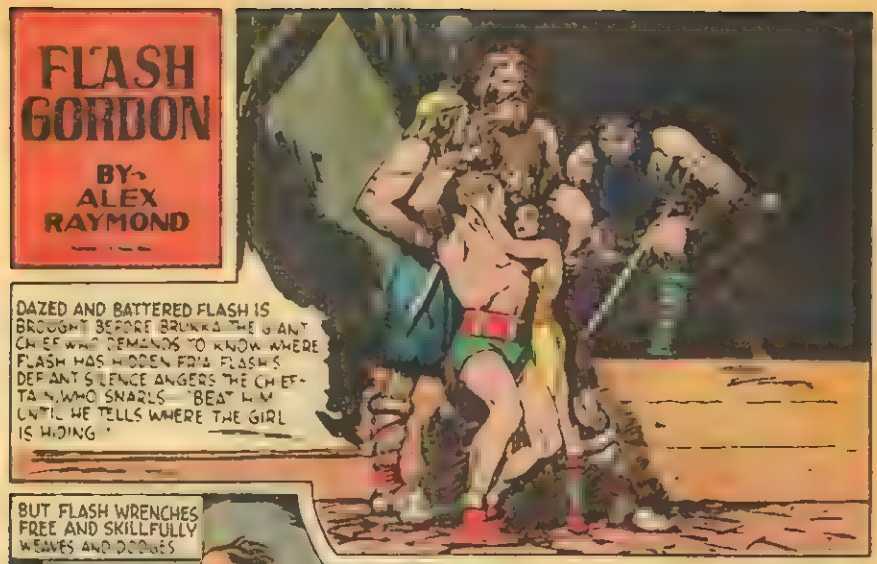
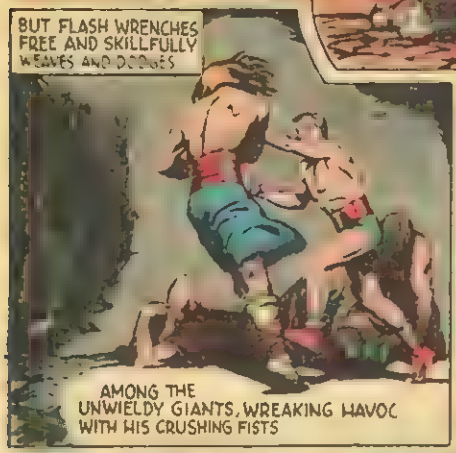
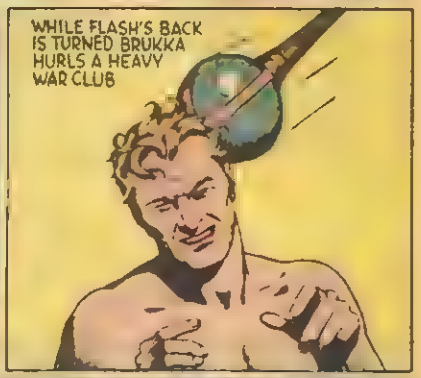
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND


DAZED AND BATTERED FLASH IS BROUGHT BEFORE BRUKKA THE GIANT CHIEF WHO DEMANDS TO KNOW WHERE FLASH HAS HIDDEN FRIA FLASH'S DEFIANT SILENCE ANGERS THE CHIEFTAIN, WHO SNARLS — "BEAT HIM UNTIL HE TELLS WHERE THE GIRL IS HIDING"

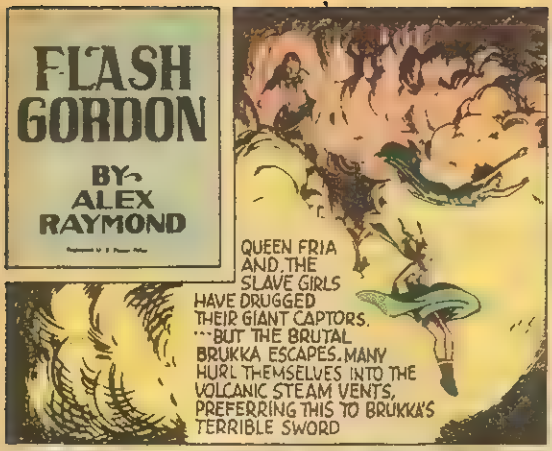

BUT FLASH WRENCHES FREE AND SKILLFULLY WEAVES AND DODGES
AMONG THE UNWIELDY GIANTS, WREAKING HAVOC WITH HIS CRUSHING FISTS

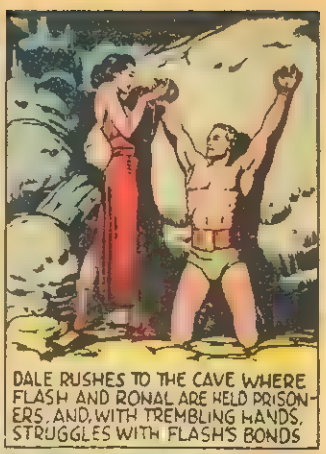


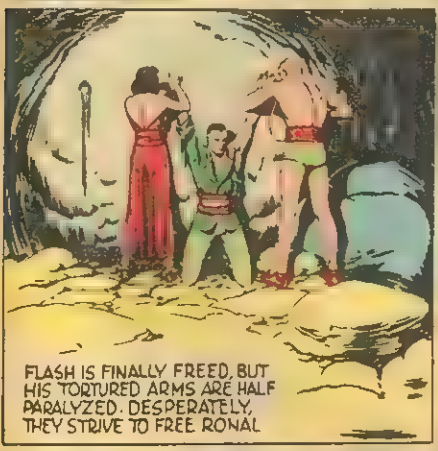
HA! CAN'T SIT OR STAND BY— YOU CAN KNEEL! YE KNEEL TO BRUKKA! KNEEL TILL YOU BEG FOR DEATH! THEN I'LL BE GENEROUS! HA SO VERY VERY GENEROUS!

FLASH GORDON

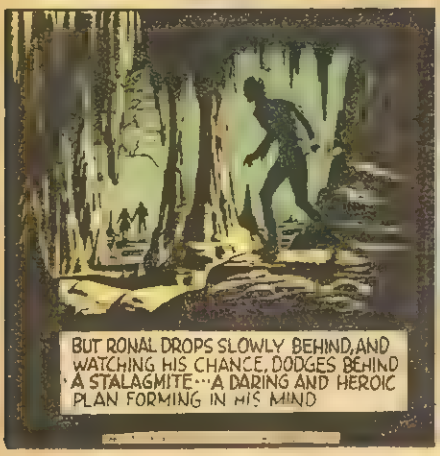
BY ALEX RAYMOND

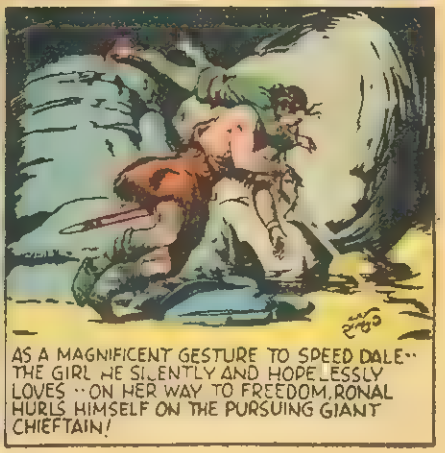

QUEEN FRIA AND THE SLAVE GIRLS HAVE DRUGGED THEIR GIANT CAPTORS. ···BUT THE BRUTAL BRUKKA ESCAPES. MANY HURL THEMSELVES INTO THE VOLCANIC STEAM VENTS, PREFERRING THIS TO BRUKKA'S TERRIBLE SWORD





UNARMED AND NOT DARING TO LEAVE DALE UNPROTECTED, FLASH AND RONAL FIGHT DOWN THEIR DESIRE TO AID THE SLAVE GIRLS, AND MAKE A DASH FOR FREEDOM


BUT RONAL DROPS SLOWLY BEHIND, AND WATCHING HIS CHANCE, DODGES BEHIND A STALAGMITE···A DARING AND HEROIC PLAN FORMING IN HIS MIND


AS A MAGNIFICENT GESTURE TO SPEED DALE·· THE GIRL HE SILENTLY AND HOPELESSLY LOVES ··ON HER WAY TO FREEDOM, RONAL HURLS HIMSELF ON THE PURSUING GIANT CHIEFTAIN!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

RONAL'S HEROIC ATTEMPT TO HALT BRUKKA, COMES TO NAUGHT, AS THE MIGHTY GIANT DASHES HIM AGAINST THE WALL

MISSING RONAL FLASH AND DALE PAUSE IN THEIR FLIGHT... "STRANGE," MUTTERS FLASH. "EITHER HE WAS TOO WEAK TO KEEP UP WITH US, OR HE WAS AMBUSHED. LET'S GO BACK A BIT."

ROUNDING A CORNER THEY FACE THE ONRUSHING BRUKKA WHO HOWLS IN BLOODTHIRSTY GLEE AT SIGHT OF HIS PREY. FLASH PICKS UP A HEAVY STONE

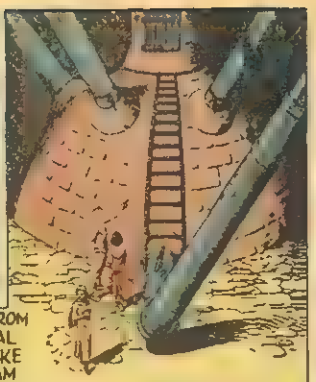
"WHEN THE GIANT CHIEFTAIN IS ALMOST UPON THEM FLASH HURLS THE STONE. BRUKKA FOLDS UP AS THE MISSILE THUMPS INTO HIS MID-SECTION

BUT OTHER GIANTS RECOVERED FROM THE SLEEPING POTION TAKE UP THE FUGITIVES TRAIL

AS FLASH AND DALE CONTINUE THEIR NOW HOPELESS FLIGHT, QUEEN FRIA SUDDENLY APPEARS IN THE ENTRANCE TO THE GIANTS CENTRAL POWER-ROOM. SHE CALLS: "QUICK... IN HERE!"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

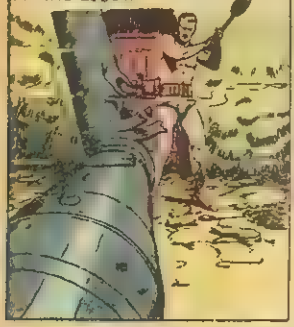


FLASH, DALE AND FRIA HIDE FROM THE GIANTS IN THEIR CENTRAL HEATING ROOM. A DOME-LIKE STRUCTURE COLLECTS STEAM FROM A VOLCANIC WELL AND PIPES IT TO REMOTE SECTIONS OF THE CAVES

FLASH THOROUGHLY EXAMINES THE CRUDE STRUCTURE. WHEN HE OPENS A SMALL DOOR, A DRAFT OF ICY AIR FANS HIS FACE

WHEN THE STEAM PRESSURE BECOMES TOO GREAT IN THE FURNACE, A SAFETY VALVE RELEASES SOME OF IT THRU THIS CHIMNEY," OBSERVES FLASH, "I'VE AN IDEA, BUT FIRST, I MUST SAVE RONAL!"

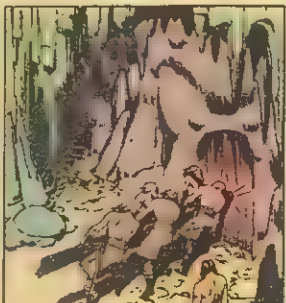
FLASH THROWS A LEVER, CUTTING THE STEAM FROM A PIPE RUNNING TOWARD THE END OF THE ROOM AND ANGLING CEILINGWARD. THIS HE SHATTERS AT THE ELBOW



AFTER HURRIED INSTRUCTIONS TO DALE AND FRIA, HE UNBOLTS THE DOOR AND DASHES INTO A TUNNEL

HE CLAMBERS UP AND BEHIND A GREAT STALAGMITE JUST AS A HOWLING BAND OF GIANTS, LED BY BRUKKA, DASHES PAST

FLASH FINDS RONAL WHERE BRUKKA HAD FLUNG HIM. SUDDENLY, A HEAVY POUNDING AND SHOOTING REACHES HIS EARS. "THE POWER-ROOM!" BREATHES FLASH



AS THE DOOR TO THE POWER ROOM GOES DOWN UNDER THE GIANTS' BLOWS··

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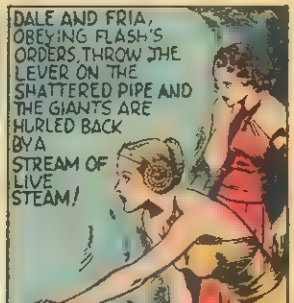
DALE AND FRIA, OBEYING FLASH'S ORDERS, THROW THE LEVER ON THE SHATTERED PIPE AND THE GIANTS ARE HURLED BACK BY A STREAM OF LIVE STEAM!



FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

COUNT KORRO TRIES EVERY MEANS HIS NOBLE BIRTH PERMITS TO END QUEEN FRIA'S GROWING INTEREST IN FLASH!

URGE FLASH TO COME EXPLORING WITH ME," HE SUGGESTS TO DALE

DALE'S LOVE FOR FLASH IS TOO UNSELFISH·· "DON'T GO ON THIS EXPEDITION WITH ZARKOV AND KORRO" SHE BEGS, "I KNOW IT'S FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN THEY SAY!

BUT MEN MUST ADVENTURE··

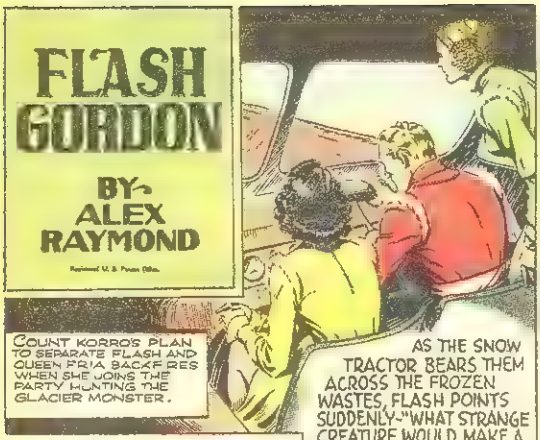
"AND WOMEN MUST WEEP. HOWEVER, UNABLE TO ARGUE FLASH OUT OF GOING, FRIA SENDS FOR KORRO. SHE DECLARES FLATLY-" THERE WILL BE NO EXPEDITION UNLESS DALE AND I ACCOMPANY YOU"

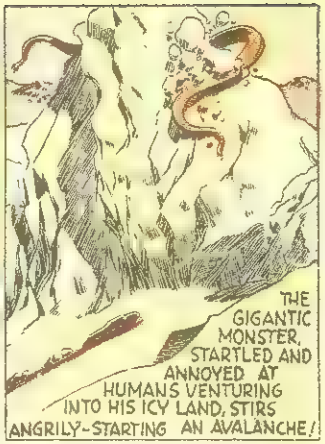
A FEW DAYS LATER AMID SECRET JEALOUSIES AND INTRIGUES, THE ROYAL EXPLORING PARTY SETS OUT TO HUNT THE DREAD MONSTER WHICH HAS TERRORIZED THE GLACIER COUNTRY OF FRIGIA

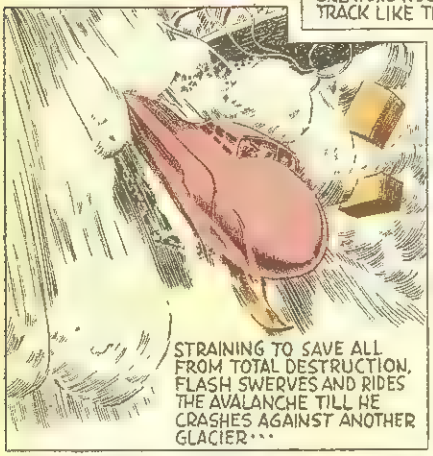
FLASH GORDON

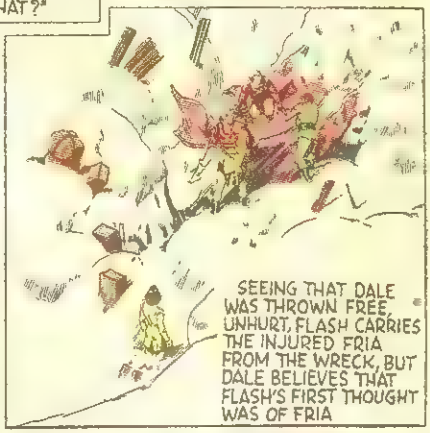
BY ALEX RAYMOND

Reginald U. S. Patent Office.


COUNT KORRO'S PLAN TO SEPARATE FLASH AND QUEEN FRIA BACKFIRES WHEN SHE JOINS THE PARTY HUNTING THE GLACIER MONSTER.
AS THE SNOW TRACTOR BEARS THEM ACROSS THE FROZEN WASTES, FLASH POINTS SUDDENLY—"WHAT STRANGE CREATURE WOULD MAKE A TRACK LIKE THAT?"




STRAINING TO SAVE ALL FROM TOTAL DESTRUCTION, FLASH SWERVES AND RIDES THE AVALANCHE TILL HE CRASHES AGAINST ANOTHER GLACIER···


SEEING THAT DALE WAS THROWN FREE, UNHURT, FLASH CARRIES THE INJURED FRIA FROM THE WRECK, BUT DALE BELIEVES THAT FLASH'S FIRST THOUGHT WAS OF FRIA

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FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

COUNT KORRO, FEARFUL THAT QUEEN FRIA WILL MAKE FLASH GORDON, KING OF FRIGIA, PLAYS ON DALE'S JEALOUSY

"I COULD FREE YOU FOR MORE IMPORTANT TASKS BY DOING THAT MYSELF 'DOCTOR' GORDON-THAT IS, IF ANYTHING COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT," SAYS DALE SARCASTICALLY

FRIA, FALLING IN LOVE WITH FLASH IN SPITE OF HERSELF HANDLES THE SITUATION WITH ROYAL TACT-"KORRO, WON'T YOU HELP ME? FLASH HAS BEEN ANXIOUS TO START REPAIRING THE MACHINES"

FLASH AND DALE WALK AWAY IN STIFF SILENCE AT THE DOOR TO HER TENT SHE WHIRLS ON HIM-"WELL, SAY IT! SAY WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY AND GET IT OVER WITH!" "I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY," ANSWERS FLASH!

FACED WITH THE HOPELESS PUZZLE OF WOMEN'S EMOTIONS, FLASH TAKES MANKIND'S AGE-OLD ESCAPE AND THROWS HIMSELF INTO HIS WORK -

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

IN THE INTENSE COLD, FLASH DRIVES HIMSELF AND HIS COMRADES TO THE LIMIT OF THEIR ENDURANCE REPAIRING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WRECKED IN THE AVALANCHE

SUDDENLY A HORRIBLE EYE-TIPPED TENTACLE COILS OVER THE BROW OF A NEARBY HILL, THREATENING TWO MEMBERS OF THE EXPEDITION

WHO ARE HAULING A SMASHED TOW-SLED TOWARD CAMP

COUNT KORRO, SCHEMING TO KEEP FLASH FROM BECOMING KING OF FRIGIA, URGES HIM TOWARD CERTAIN DEATH! "SAVE YOUR MEN!" HE CRIES, BUT FLASH WAS ALREADY ON HIS WAY

ZARKOV, WORKING ON BROKEN SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT NEARBY, INTERCEPTS FLASH, AND DROPS HIM. "YOU CAN'T GO, FLASH! IF YOU ATTRACT THE MONSTER'S ATTENT ON THIS WAY, THE WOMEN ARE DOOMED!"

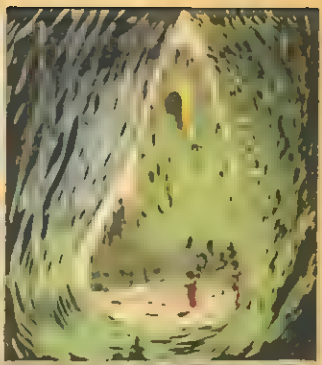
BUT THE MEN'S FATE IS ALREADY SEALED ANOTHER ARM OF THE STRANGE MONSTER HAS REACHED OUT INQUIRINGLY···

···THERE IS A DEAFENING THUNDERCLAP AS THE SECOND ARM COMPLETES THE WEIRD CIRCUIT··· AND SLED, MEN, ROPE AND ALL VANISH INTO NOTHINGNESS!

FLASH GORDON

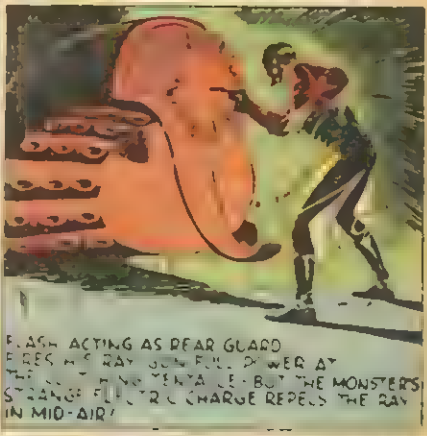
BY-
ALEX
RAYMOND

HORROR SHOCKS THE EXPLORERS, AS THE GLACIER MONSTER BLASTS TWO OF THEM INTO NOTHINGNESS WITH A TOUCH. FLASH AND ZARKOV SCRAMBLE MADLY TOWARD CAMP WITH FLASH MUTTERING "WE CAN'T LET IT GET THE GIRLS!"

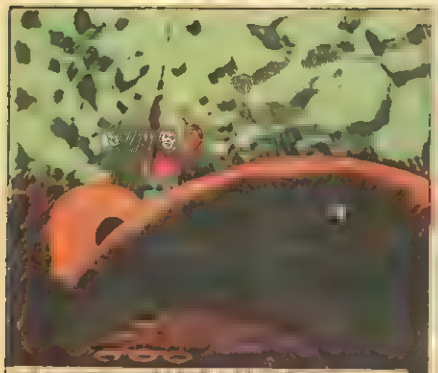


[illegible] AND TOOLS THE SURVIVORS [illegible] DOWN AN ICY CREVASSE TOWARD A YAWNING CAVERN

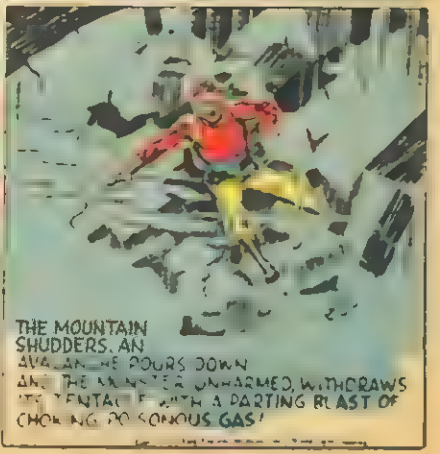
WITHOUT HESITATION, THEY PLUNGE INTO THE UNKNOWN PERILS OF THE ICE TUNNEL



FLASH ACTING AS REAR GUARD [illegible] HIS RAY GUN FULL POWER AT [illegible] BUT THE MONSTER'S STRANGE FLESH CHARGE REPELS THE RAY IN MID-AIR!



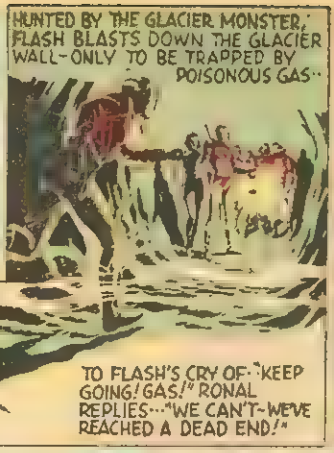
[illegible] WEAPON USELESS, THE CREATURE'S WEIRD POWER FLASH TRIES ONE LAST DESPERATE TRICK - TO BLAST THE MOUNTAIN DOWN ON HIS UNCANNY FOE!

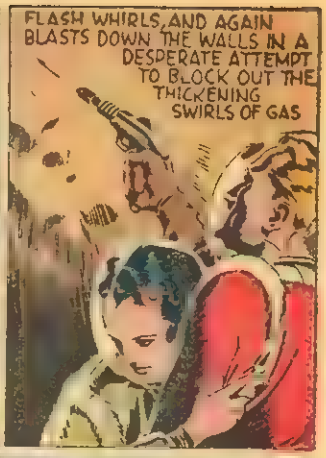


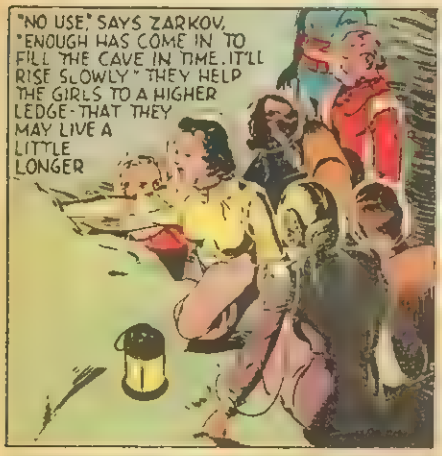
THE MOUNTAIN SHUDDERS. AN AVALANCHE POURS DOWN AND THE MONSTER, UNHARMED, WITHDRAWS INTO ITS ICY FASTNESS WITH A PARTING BLAST OF CHOKING POISONOUS GAS!

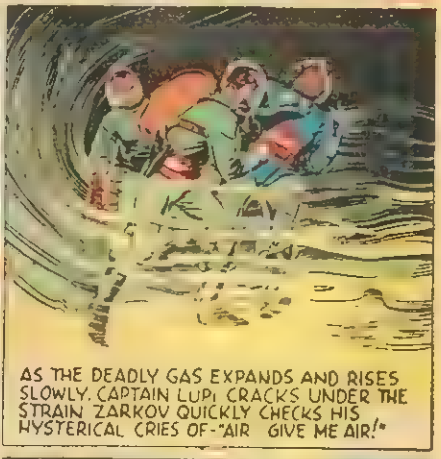
FLASH GORDON

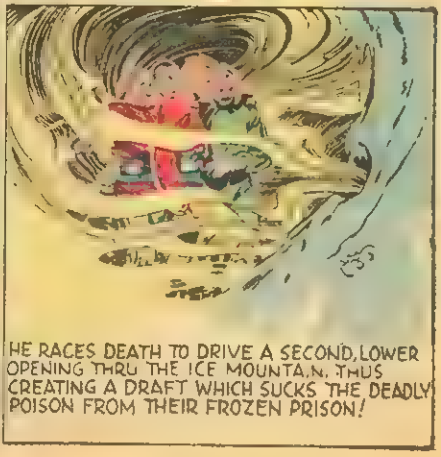
BY ALEX RAYMOND


HUNTED BY THE GLACIER MONSTER, FLASH BLASTS DOWN THE GLACIER WALL-ONLY TO BE TRAPPED BY POISONOUS GAS··
TO FLASH'S CRY OF-"KEEP GOING! GAS!" RONAL REPLIES···"WE CAN'T-WE'VE REACHED A DEAD END!"




"NO USE," SAYS ZARKOV, "ENOUGH HAS COME IN TO FILL THE CAVE IN TIME. IT'LL RISE SLOWLY." THEY HELP THE GIRLS TO A HIGHER LEDGE-THAT THEY MAY LIVE A LITTLE LONGER


AS THE DEADLY GAS EXPANDS AND RISES SLOWLY. CAPTAIN LUPI CRACKS UNDER THE STRAIN ZARKOV QUICKLY CHECKS HIS HYSTERICAL CRIES OF-"AIR GIVE ME AIR!"


HE RACES DEATH TO DRIVE A SECOND, LOWER OPENING THRU THE ICE MOUNTA.N. THUS CREATING A DRAFT WHICH SUCKS THE DEADLY POISON FROM THEIR FROZEN PRISON!

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

BY ROPING THE BLOCKED-OFF TUNNEL OF POISON GAS, FLASH SAVES THE LITTLE EXPEDITION. WITH HER EYES SHINING, FRIA EXPRESSES HER GRATITUDE

COUNT KORRO, AWARE THAT HIS QUEEN IS FALLING IN LOVE WITH FLASH, VENTS HIS WRATH ON CAPTAIN LUPI: "I OUGHT TO KILL YOU! YOUR COWARDICE IN THE FACE OF DANGER HAS DISGRACED ME AND THE ARMY. I'LL HAVE YOUR COMMISSION FOR THIS!"

VENGEFUL LUPI WHISPERS TO FLASH, "KORRO STARTED THIS EXPEDITION SO YOU WOULD BE KILLED. HE'S JEALOUS AND SINCE FRIA MUST MARRY A COUNT AND YOU AND KORRO ARE THE ONLY ONES—AND ONLY YOU ARE HANDSOME!"

FLASH SPURNS LUPI'S VICIOUS ATTEMPT TO GET REVENGE ON KORRO, BUT NOW HE REALIZES WHAT A SITUATION HE IS IN

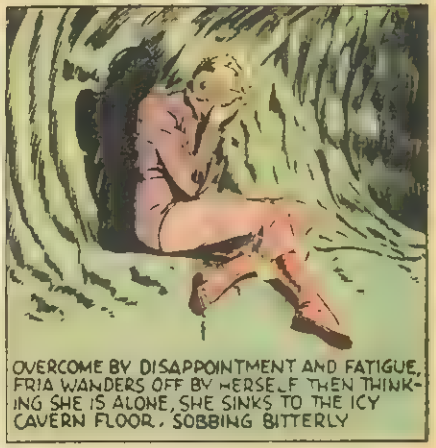
"WHY DID YOU HIT MY CAPTAIN?" ASKS FRIA. "YOUR CAPTAIN IS A RAT," ANSWERS FLASH, "BUT HE'S UNIMPORTANT. WHAT MATTERS NOW IS GETTING OUT OF HERE!"

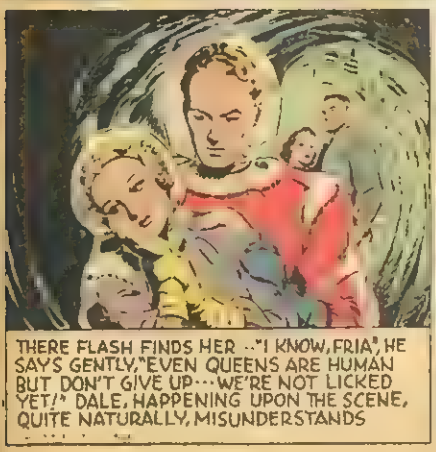
FLASH HOPES THAT THE EFFORT TO ESCAPE FROM THEIR ICE PRISON, BEFORE IT BECOMES A TOMB, WILL END THE QUARRELS AND INTRIGUES

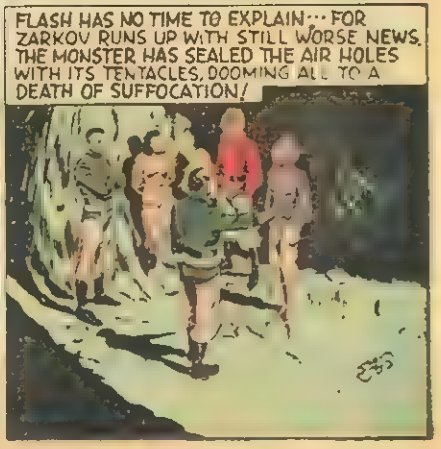
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

TRAPPED INSIDE A GLACIER BY AN INCREDIBLE MONSTER, FLASH TRIES TO BLAST A WAY OF ESCAPE WITH THE FAILING POWER OF THE RAY GUNS

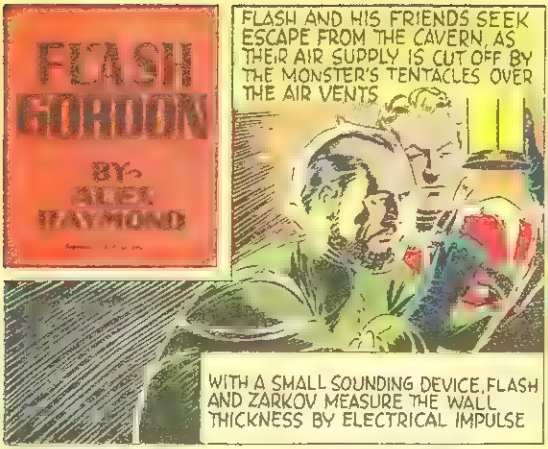

OVERCOME BY DISAPPOINTMENT AND FATIGUE, FRIA WANDERS OFF BY HERSELF THEN THINKING SHE IS ALONE, SHE SINKS TO THE ICY CAVERN FLOOR, SOBBING BITTERLY


THERE FLASH FINDS HER ··"I KNOW, FRIA", HE SAYS GENTLY, "EVEN QUEENS ARE HUMAN BUT DON'T GIVE UP··· WE'RE NOT LICKED YET!" DALE, HAPPENING UPON THE SCENE, QUITE NATURALLY, MISUNDERSTANDS

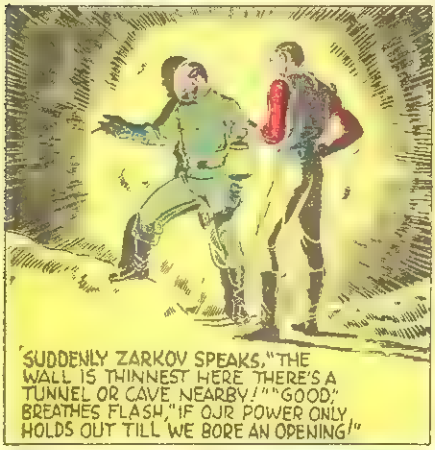

FLASH HAS NO TIME TO EXPLAIN··· FOR ZARKOV RUNS UP WITH STILL WORSE NEWS. THE MONSTER HAS SEALED THE AIR HOLES WITH ITS TENTACLES, DOOMING ALL TO A DEATH OF SUFFOCATION!

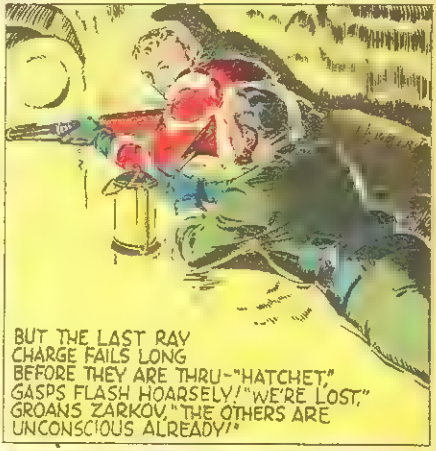
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

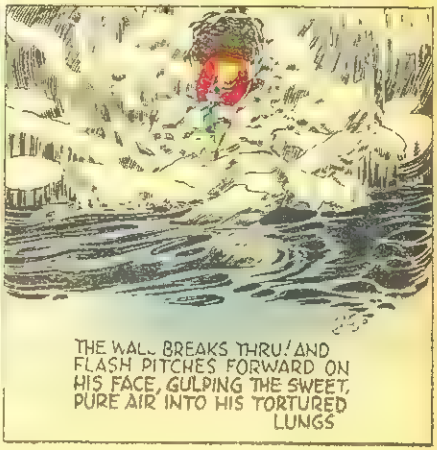

FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS SEEK ESCAPE FROM THE CAVERN, AS THEIR AIR SUPPLY IS CUT OFF BY THE MONSTER'S TENTACLES OVER THE AIR VENTS
WITH A SMALL SOUNDING DEVICE, FLASH AND ZARKOV MEASURE THE WALL THICKNESS BY ELECTRICAL IMPULSE

AS TIME PASSES, BREATHING BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT AND THE COLD MORE UNBEARABLE. DALE, RONAL, KORRO, LUPI AND FRIA WATCH THE TWO MEN WITH FADING HOPE


SUDDENLY ZARKOV SPEAKS, "THE WALL IS THINNEST HERE. THERE'S A TUNNEL OR CAVE NEARBY!" "GOOD," BREATHES FLASH, "IF OUR POWER ONLY HOLDS OUT TILL WE BORE AN OPENING!"

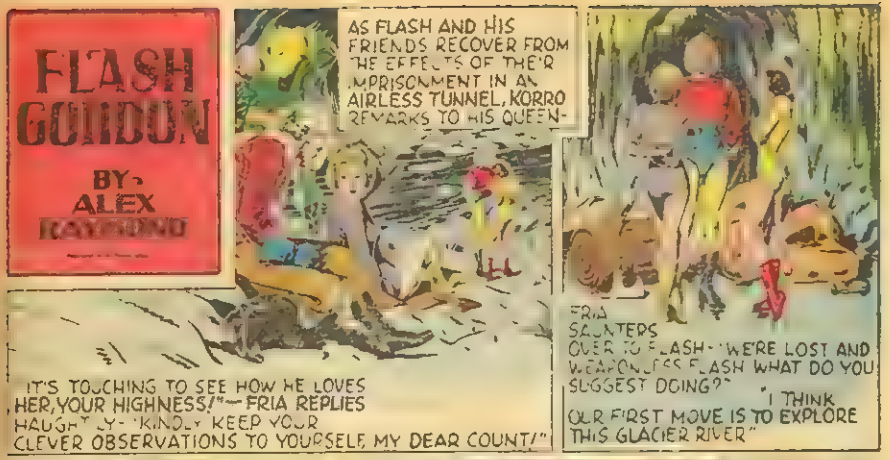

BUT THE LAST RAY CHARGE FAILS LONG BEFORE THEY ARE THRU - "HATCHET," GASPS FLASH HOARSELY! "WE'RE LOST," GROANS ZARKOV, "THE OTHERS ARE UNCONSCIOUS ALREADY!"

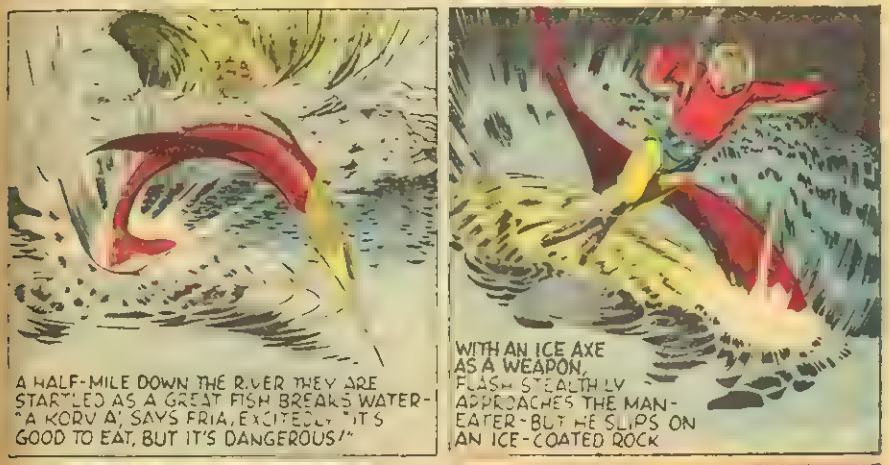
FINALLY, ONLY FLASH REMAINS CONSCIOUS HIS BREATH COMES IN LABORED GASPS, BUT HIS POWERFUL RIGHT ARM DRIVES THE HATCHET INTO THE ICE - AGAIN - AND AGAIN - AND AGAIN

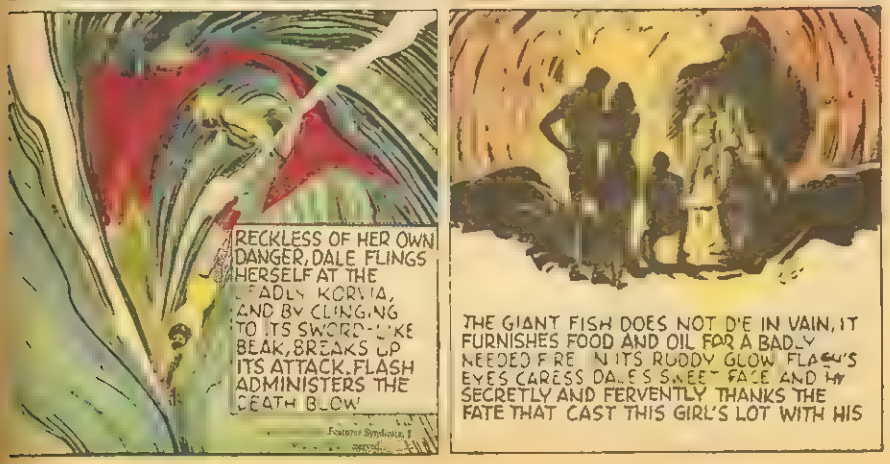


FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

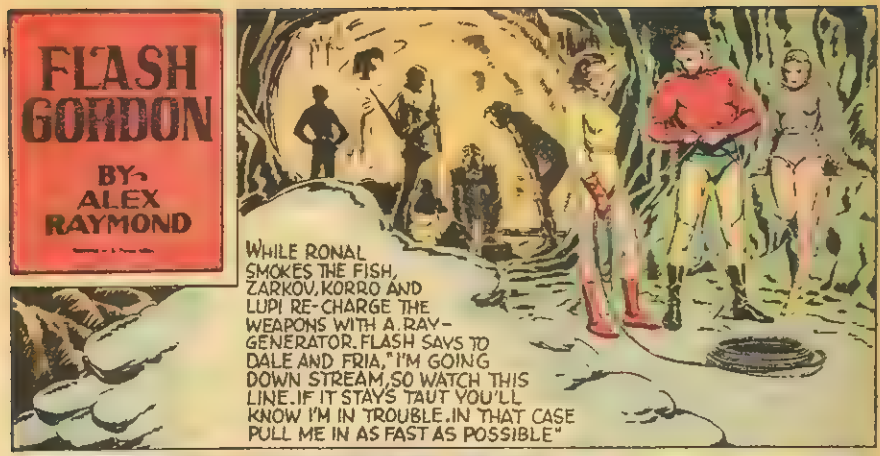

AS FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS RECOVER FROM THE EFFECTS OF THEIR IMPRISONMENT IN AN AIRLESS TUNNEL, KORRO REMARKS TO HIS QUEEN-
"IT'S TOUCHING TO SEE HOW HE LOVES HER, YOUR HIGHNESS!"—FRIA REPLIES HAUGHTILY- "KINDLY KEEP YOUR CLEVER OBSERVATIONS TO YOURSELF, MY DEAR COUNT!"
FRIA SCANTERS OVER TO FLASH- "WE'RE LOST AND WEAPONLESS FLASH WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST DOING?"
"I THINK OUR FIRST MOVE IS TO EXPLORE THIS GLACIER RIVER"

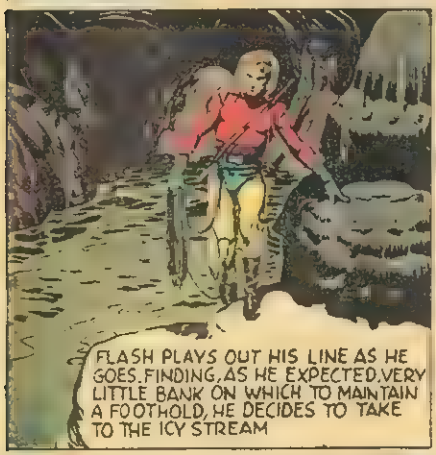

A HALF-MILE DOWN THE RIVER THEY ARE STARTLED AS A GREAT FISH BREAKS WATER- "A KORVA", SAYS FRIA, EXCITEDLY, "IT'S GOOD TO EAT, BUT IT'S DANGEROUS!"
WITH AN ICE AXE AS A WEAPON, FLASH STEALTHILY APPROACHES THE MAN-EATER- BUT HE SLIPS ON AN ICE-COATED ROCK


RECKLESS OF HER OWN DANGER, DALE FLINGS HERSELF AT THE DEADLY KORVA, AND BY CLINGING TO ITS SWORD-LIKE BEAK, BREAKS UP ITS ATTACK. FLASH ADMINISTERS THE DEATH BLOW
THE GIANT FISH DOES NOT DIE IN VAIN, IT FURNISHES FOOD AND OIL FOR A BADLY NEEDED FIRE. IN ITS RUDDY GLOW FLASH'S EYES CARESS DALE'S SWEET FACE AND HE SECRETLY AND FERVENTLY THANKS THE FATE THAT CAST THIS GIRL'S LOT WITH HIS

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND


WHILE RONAL SMOKES THE FISH, ZARKOV, KORRO AND LUPI RE-CHARGE THE WEAPONS WITH A RAY-GENERATOR. FLASH SAYS TO DALE AND FRIA, "I'M GOING DOWN STREAM, SO WATCH THIS LINE. IF IT STAYS TAUT YOU'LL KNOW I'M IN TROUBLE. IN THAT CASE PULL ME IN AS FAST AS POSSIBLE"


FLASH PLAYS OUT HIS LINE AS HE GOES. FINDING, AS HE EXPECTED, VERY LITTLE BANK ON WHICH TO MAINTAIN A FOOTHOLD, HE DECIDES TO TAKE TO THE ICY STREAM

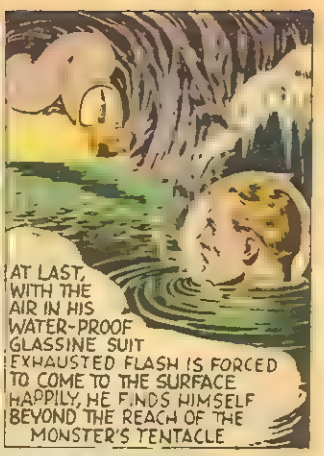
FREQUENTLY, FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH SAVES HIM FROM DISASTER IN THE SWIFT CURRENT FINALLY, NUMB WITH COLD, HE REACHES THE CAVERN'S EXIT- ONLY TO FACE A TERRIBLE SIGHT!

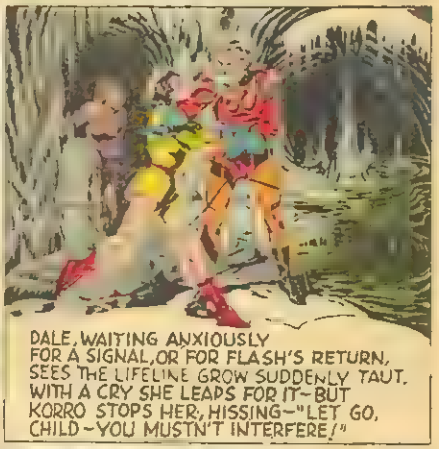
FLASH GUESSES RIGHT. THE MONSTER DOES NOT PURSUE HIM INTO THE WATER, WHICH WOULD DISCHARGE HIS OWN POWER- BUT THE TENTACLE STAYS POISED TO SEIZE FLASH IF HE COMES TO THE SURFACE!

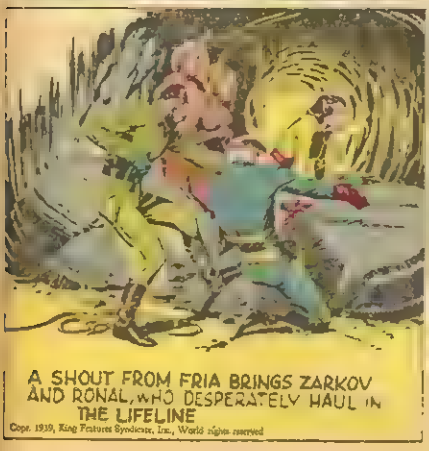
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

WITH THE GLACIER MONSTER READY TO POUNCE IF HE LEAVES THE WATER, FLASH FIGHTS HIS WAY UP THE ICY STREAM, TRAVELING ALONG THE RIVER BOTTOM


AT LAST, WITH THE AIR IN HIS WATER-PROOF GLASSINE SUIT EXHAUSTED FLASH IS FORCED TO COME TO THE SURFACE HAPPILY, HE FINDS HIMSELF BEYOND THE REACH OF THE MONSTER'S TENTACLE


DALE, WAITING ANXIOUSLY FOR A SIGNAL, OR FOR FLASH'S RETURN, SEES THE LIFELINE GROW SUDDENLY TAUT. WITH A CRY SHE LEAPS FOR IT—BUT KORRO STOPS HER, HISSING—"LET GO, CHILD—YOU MUSTN'T INTERFERE!"



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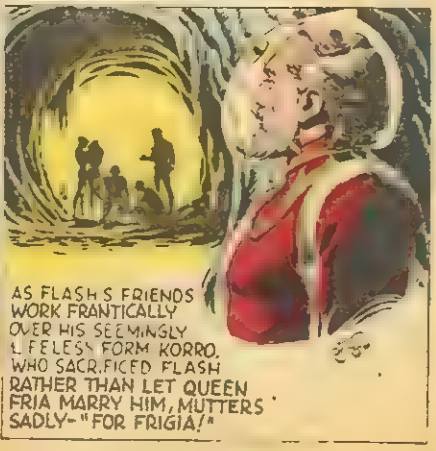

AS FLASH'S FRIENDS WORK FRANTICALLY OVER HIS SEEMINGLY LIFELESS FORM KORRO, WHO SACRIFICED FLASH RATHER THAN LET QUEEN FRIA MARRY HIM, MUTTERS SADLY—"FOR FRIGIA!"

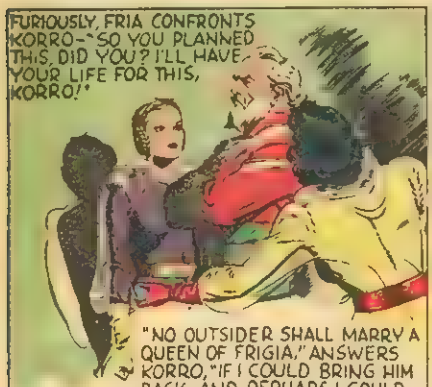
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

ZARKOV TRIES VAINLY TO REVIVE FLASH, WHO WAS DROWNED AND FROZEN IN THE GLACIER STREAM - IT'S NO USE," THE DOCTOR GROANS, DESPAIRINGLY, "HE'S GONE!"

FRIA, GRIEVING IN SOLITUDE HEARS CAPTAIN LUPI'S LOW-PITCHED GLOATING VOICE - "HA, YOUR RIVAL FOR FRIA'S HAND IS OUT OF THE WAY, COUNT KORRO!"

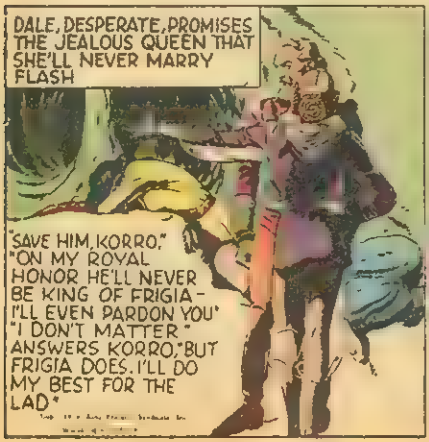
FURIOUSLY, FRIA CONFRONTS KORRO - "SO YOU PLANNED THIS, DID YOU? I'LL HAVE YOUR LIFE FOR THIS, KORRO!"



"NO OUTSIDER SHALL MARRY A QUEEN OF FRIGIA," ANSWERS KORRO, "IF I COULD BRING HIM BACK - AND PERHAPS I COULD - I WOULDN'T!" "OH, HAVE PITY, KORRO," IMPLORES DALE!

"PROMISE KORRO YOU'LL NEVER MARRY FLASH, IF HE'LL SAVE HIM," BEGS DALE, TEARFULLY. "IF YOU LOVE HIM, PROVE IT BY GIVING HIM UP!" FRIA REPLIES BITTERLY, "IF I CAN'T HAVE HIM, YOU SHAN'T! WILL YOU ALSO GIVE HIM UP?"

DALE, DESPERATE, PROMISES THE JEALOUS QUEEN THAT SHE'LL NEVER MARRY FLASH



"SAVE HIM, KORRO." "ON MY ROYAL HONOR HE'LL NEVER BE KING OF FRIGIA - I'LL EVEN PARDON YOU" "I DON'T MATTER." ANSWERS KORRO, "BUT FRIGIA DOES. I'LL DO MY BEST FOR THE LAD."

AT THE VETERAN EXPLORER'S ORDER, THEY PACK FLASH'S BODY IN CAKES OF ICE. KORRO PREPARES A HYPODERMIC NEEDLE - HE REMARKS, OMINOUSLY - "WE'VE WAITED DANGEROUSLY LONG. THERE'S JUST ONE CHANCE - IF HE FAILS TO REACT TO THIS DRUG - WELL, WE'LL SOON KNOW!"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

ON RECEIVING FRIA'S PLEDGE, NEVER TO MAKE FLASH KING OF FRIGIA, COUNT KORRO TRIES TO REVIVE FLASH

THE VETERAN EXPLORER INJECTS A MYSTERIOUS STIMULANT INTO FLASH'S ICE-PACKED BODY, AND AT ONCE HIS BREATHING COMES DEEP AND REGULAR

"WHY, IT'S MIRACULOUS!" EXCLAIMS ZORKOV, "TELL ME—THAT ICE—IS IT FROZEN SLEEP?! I WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH IT ON EARTH—"

"WHAT YOU CALL 'FROZEN SLEEP' HAS LONG BEEN PRACTICED IN FRIGIA," ANSWERS KORRO. "YOU HAVE MUCH TO LEARN, ZARKOV"

AS FLASH MENDS RAPIDLY IN HIS STATE OF FROZEN SLUMBER, JEALOUS FRIA REMINDS DALE—"REMEMBER, TO SAVE HIS LIFE—YOU PROMISED ME YOU'D NEVER MARRY HIM!" "REMEMBER?" WHISPERS DALE, "HOW CAN I EVER FORGET?"

FAITHFULLY AND TENDERLY, DALE NURSES FLASH THRU HIS CONVALESCENCE, IN SPITE OF HER BRAVE ATTEMPTS TO HIDE HER GRIEF, FLASH REALIZES THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG

FINALLY, ONE DAY, FLASH GATHERS HER INTO HIS ARMS AND SAYS—"DARLING, IT HURTS ME TO SEE YOU SO UNHAPPY—TELL OL' DOC' GORDON ALL ABOUT IT" "I CAN'T STAND IT," SOBS DALE, "OH, LET ME ALONE!"

HURT AND ANGERED, FLASH STAMPS OVER TO THE GREAT FIRE WHERE HIS FRIENDS ARE PREPARING A NEW DEVICE WITH WHICH TO FIGHT THE GREAT GLACIER MONSTER A SUPERHUMAN TASK, BUT TO FLASH, SIMPLER THAN THE PROBLEM OF A WOMAN'S EMOTIONS!

FLASH GORDON

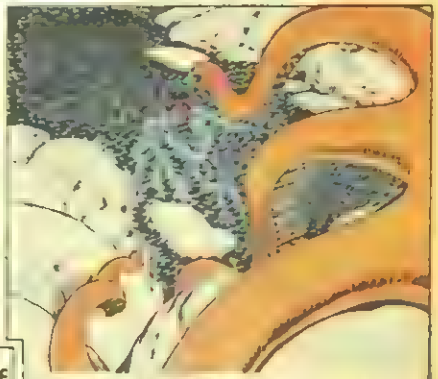
BY ALEX RAYMOND

BECAUSE OF THE GLACIER MONSTER'S FEAR OF WATER, FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS PLAN THEIR ATTACK FROM THE RIVER

THEN THE AIR CHAMBER HAS COOLED AND HARDENED FLASH AND KORRO FROM THEIR PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT ABOARD AND SHOVE OFF ZARKOV REMAINS BEHIND WITH THE OTHERS TO MAN THE AIR-PUMPS

THE GLASS-TE GLOBE FLOATS INTO MID-STREAM KORRO OPENS AN INDUCTION VALVE, TAKING IN ENOUGH WATER BENEATH THE WATER-TIGHT FLOOR TO ALLOW THEM TO FLOAT BETWEEN THE RIVER SURFACE AND THE BOTTOM

FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE STREAM, OUTSIDE THE MOUNTAIN, FLASH RAISES THE COLLAPSIBLE CONNING TOWER ABOVE THE SURFACE AND FOCUSES AN INSTRUMENT ON THE UNSUSPECTING MONSTER—



AT THAT MOMENT THE DREAD MONSTER DISCOVERS THE INTRUDERS AND STRIKES LIKE LIGHTNING!

FLASH SHOUTS A WARNING AND CLAMBERS DOWN THE LADDER— KORRO JERKS A LEVER

UNABLE TO CHECK ITS LUNGE THE TENTACLE BRUSHES THE WATER JUST AS THE CONNING TOWER SUBMERGES— AND THE ICY STREAM BOILS AND STEAMS!

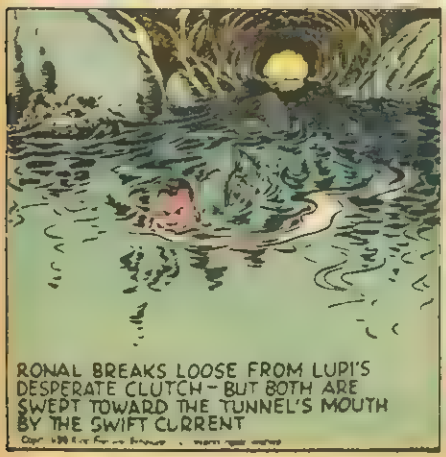
FLASH GORDON

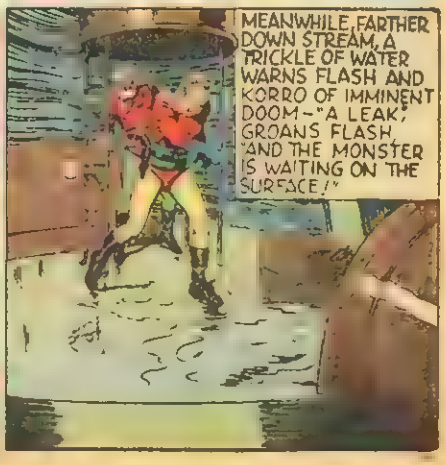
BY ALEX RAYMOND

RONAL WHO HAS LONG LOVED DALE IN VAIN, IS WORRIED ABOUT HER STRANGE BEHAVIOR HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT, TO SAVE FLASH'S LIFE, SHE PROMISED FRIA SHE WOULD NEVER MARRY FLASH—"DON'T WORRY ABOUT FLASH," SAYS RONAL, HE'LL COME THRU ALL RIGHT" DALE ANSWERS—"IT ISN'T THAT—OH, LET ME ALONE"

HURT, RONAL WALKS DOWN-STREAM HE STOPS IN HIS TRACKS, AS AHEAD, HE SEES LUPI FURTIVELY AIMING HIS RAY GUN SUDDENLY, RONAL GUESSES THE SINISTER CAPTAIN'S INTENTIONS

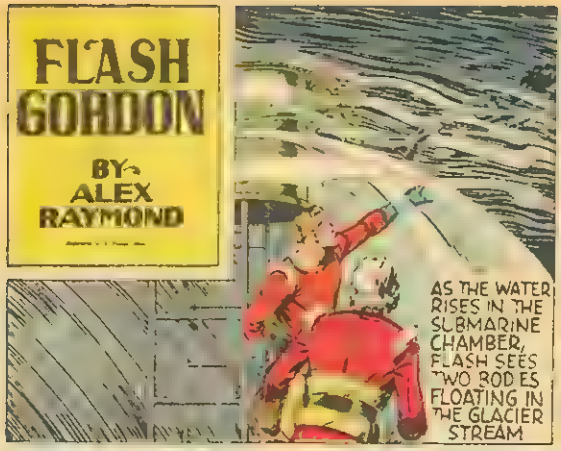
LUPI, KNOWING FLASH AND KORRO ARE UNDER WATER AT THE END OF THE GLASSITE TUBE, SEIZES THE CHANCE FOR REVENGE. WITH A YELL
RONAL DASHES FORWARD

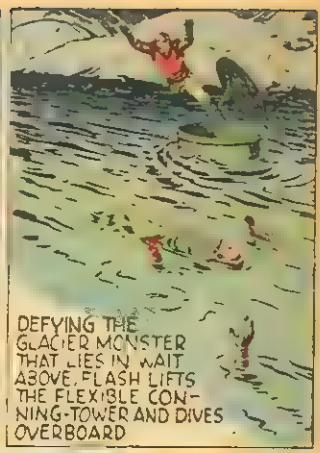


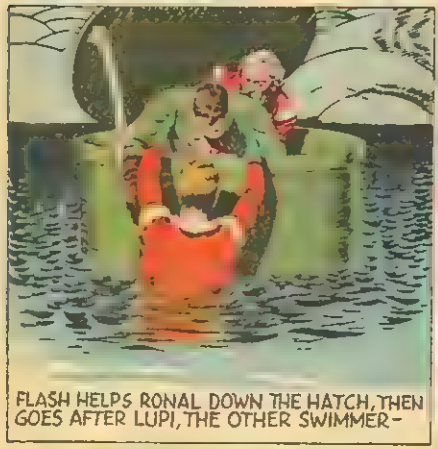

MEANWHILE, FARTHER DOWN STREAM, A TRICKLE OF WATER WARNS FLASH AND KORRO OF IMMINENT DOOM—"A LEAK," GROANS FLASH, "AND THE MONSTER IS WAITING ON THE SURFACE!"

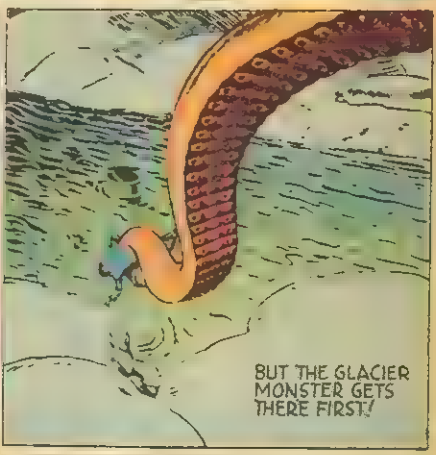
FLASH GORDON

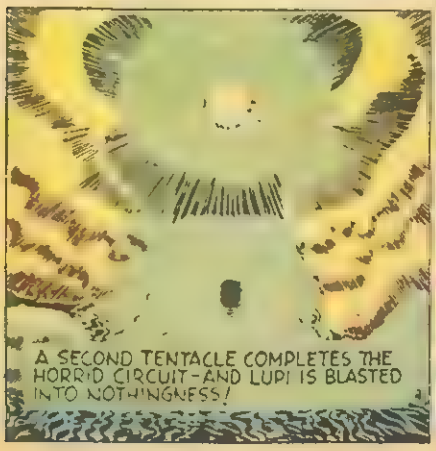
BY ALEX RAYMOND

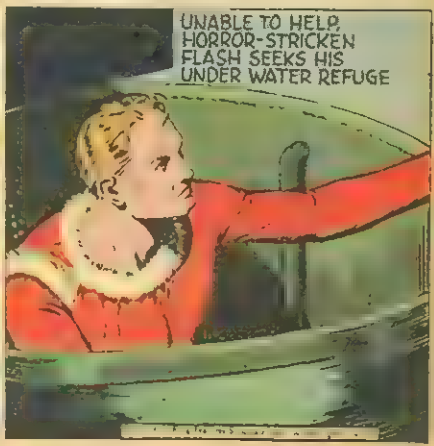










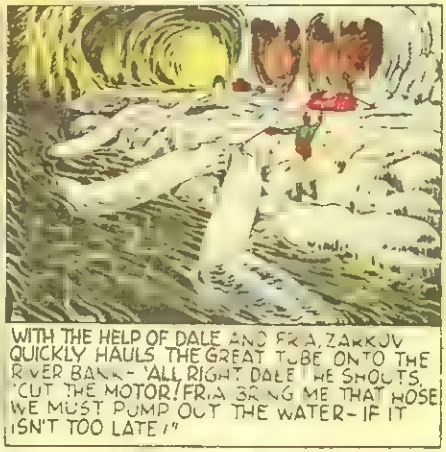


FLASH GORDON

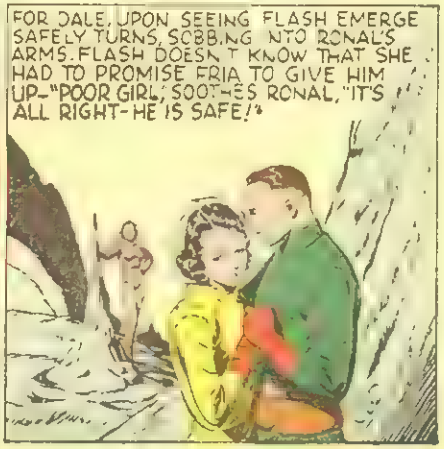
BY ALEX RAYMOND

TRAPPED IN AN UNDER WATER CHAMBER, FLASH, KORRO AND RONAL ARE MENACED BY RISING WATER FROM A LEAK. FLASH MUTTERS - WATER WILL SOON FORCE THE AIR OUT!

BUT DALE NOTICES THE TELL-TALE SWIRL OF WATER INDICATING THE LEAK - "HE'LL DROWN!" SHE GASPS. "FLASH WILL DROWN! I'VE GOT TO TELL ZARKOV!"


WITH THE HELP OF DALE AND FRIA, ZARKOV QUICKLY HAULS THE GREAT TUBE ONTO THE RIVER BANK - "ALL RIGHT, DALE" HE SHOUTS, "CUT THE MOTOR! FRIA BRING ME THAT HOSE WE MUST PUMP OUT THE WATER - IF IT ISN'T TOO LATE!"

LATER, THE MEN CRAWL UP THE TUBE TO SAFETY. FLASH THANKS ZARKOV THEN ASKS - "BUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH DALE? FUNNY, SHE DOESN'T COME TO GREET - OH! I SEE -"


FOR DALE, UPON SEEING FLASH EMERGE SAFELY TURNS, SOBBING INTO RONAL'S ARMS. FLASH DOESN'T KNOW THAT SHE HAD TO PROMISE FRIA TO GIVE HIM UP - "POOR GIRL," SOOTHES RONAL, "IT'S ALL RIGHT - HE IS SAFE!"

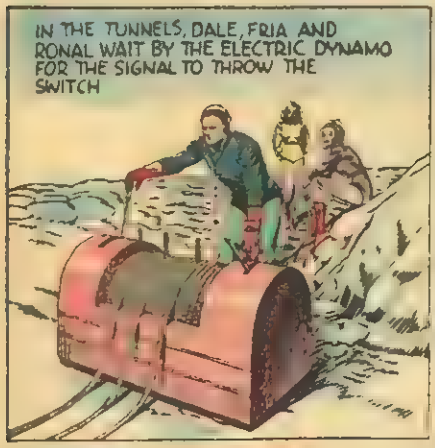
FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

THE HIDEOUS GLACIER MONSTER, WHOSE MYSTERIOUS POWER HAS BLASTED MANY MEMBERS OF FLASH'S EXPEDITION TO NOTHINGNESS, SPRAWLS ATOP THE ICY MOUNTAIN, PATIENTLY WAITING FOR COLD AND HUNGER TO DRIVE THE OTHERS INTO ITS CLUTCHES····

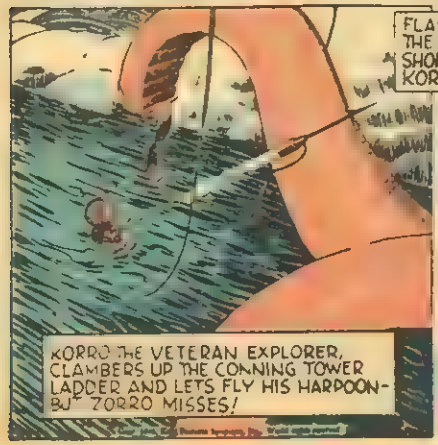
BUT THE MEN ARE NOW READY TO ATTACK. THEY HAVE THREE HEAVY STRANDS OF WIRE FROM THEIR CAVE HIDEOUT THRU THE AIR-TUBE. THEY ATTACH THESE WIRES TO HARPOONS ··

IN THE TUNNELS, DALE, FRIA AND RONAL WAIT BY THE ELECTRIC DYNAMO FOR THE SIGNAL TO THROW THE SWITCH



RST FLASH, THEN KORRO DRIVE THE HARPOONS INTO THE MONSTER'S WRITHING TENTACLES···

FLASH HURLS HIMSELF INTO THE ICY WATER AND SWIMS SHOREWARD TO RETRIEVE KORRO'S HARPOON··



KORRO THE VETERAN EXPLORER, CLAMBERS UP THE CONNING TOWER LADDER AND LETS FLY HIS HARPOON-BUT ZORRO MISSES!

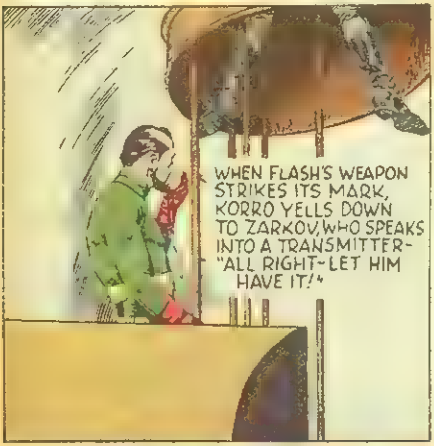
"COME BACK, YOU YOUNG FOOL!" ROARS KORRO. "YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE! THE MONSTER WILL GET YOU!"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

AFTER TESTING THE ELECTRIC CHARGE AND FREQUENCY OF THE GLAZIER MONSTER, FLASH TRIES TO ELECTROCUTE IT. TWO WIRED HARPOONS ARE FIRED BY FLASH AND ZARKOV- THEY CARRY TRUE- BUT KORRO'S HARPOON MISSES. FLASH RECKLESSLY GOES AFTER IT—

A HORRIBLE EYE-TIPPED TENTACLE REACHES FOR FLASH- HE SNATCHES UP THE WAYWARD HARPOON AND HURLS IT WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF HIS POWERFUL BODY-



WHEN FLASH'S WEAPON STRIKES ITS MARK, KORRO YELLS DOWN TO ZARKOV, WHO SPEAKS INTO A TRANSMITTER- "ALL RIGHT- LET HIM HAVE IT!"

BACK IN THE TUNNELS, RONAL THROWS A SWITCH- A HIGH-PITCHED WHINE FILLS THE AIR—

—THERE IS A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT- A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION- AND THE GREAT GLACIER MONSTER IS NO MORE!

FLASH IS LIFTED AND HURLED INTO A SNOW-BANK ACROSS THE RIVER- HIS CLOTHING TURN TO SHREDS BY THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION- "HEY, ZARKOV," HE BELLOWS, "I'M IN A BAD WAY- GET ME ANOTHER PAIR OF PANTS- QUICK!"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

THE EXPLORING PARTY RETURNS TO CAMP. FLASH AND ZARKOV REPAIR THE SNOW TRACTOR FOR THE RETURN JOURNEY TO FRIGIA.

A FEW DAYS LATER THE POWERFUL TRACTOR CUTS OFF BURNING ITS WAY THRU A HOWLING BLIZZARD.

THE DELICIOUS AROMA OF COOKING FOOD SOON DRAWS FLASH TO THE TINY GALLEY WHERE HE FINDS DALE. "SEE 'M ALONE, DARLING," SAYS FLASH BUT DALE SHRINKS FROM HIS TOUCH.

"SEE HERE, YOUNG LADY, I DON'T KNOW WHY [illegible] BUT IF I'M SO DISTASTEFUL TO YOU YOU MAY BE SURE I'LL NEVER BOTHER YOU AGAIN!"

FLASH LEAVES, SLAMMING THE DOOR AFTER HIM AND SHE SOBS WEAKLY. DALE'S BODY SHE CANNOT TELL FLASH THAT SHE HAS PROMISED FRIA THAT SHE WILL NEVER MARRY HIM

BITTERLY HURT AND HEARTSICK FLASH TAKES THE WHEEL AND RACES ONWARD THRU THE NIGHT. FRIA SMILES. HER PLANS ARE GOING WELL.

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

CRUSHED BY DALE'S APPARENT CHANGE OF HEART, FLASH GOES TO HIS ROOM. HE DOES NOT KNOW THAT BOTH DALE AND FRIA HAVE SWORN TO GIVE HIM UP···

A LITTLE LATER, FLASH, MOUNTED ON A SNOWBIRD GALLOPS THRU THE PALACE GATE, BOUND FOR ZARKOV'S LABORATORY-

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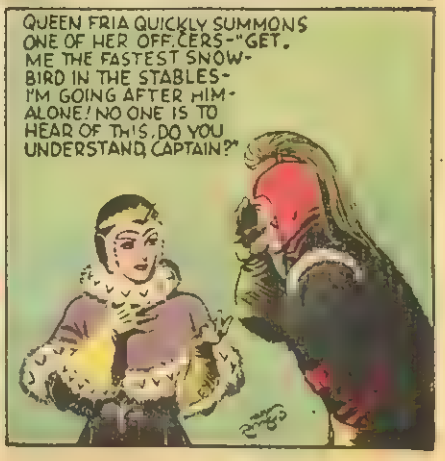
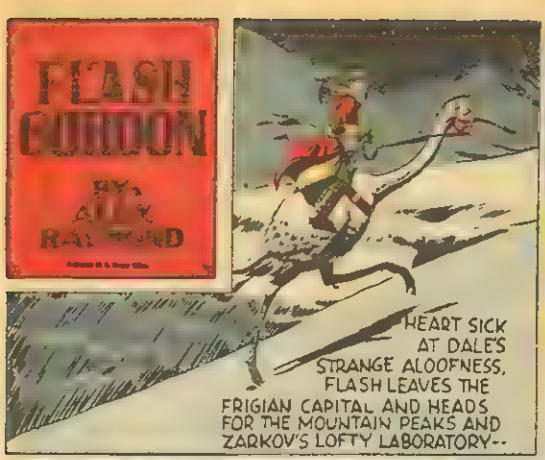
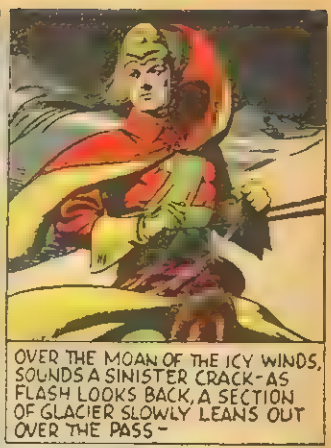

QUEEN FRIA QUICKLY SUMMONS ONE OF HER OFFICERS-"GET ME THE FASTEST SNOW-BIRD IN THE STABLES- I'M GOING AFTER HIM- ALONE! NO ONE IS TO HEAR OF THIS, DO YOU UNDERSTAND, CAPTAIN?"

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

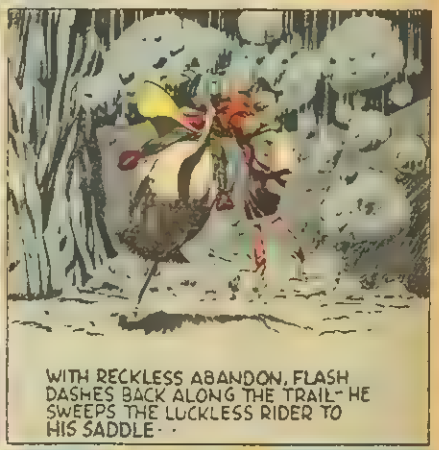


HEART SICK AT DALE'S STRANGE ALOOFNESS, FLASH LEAVES THE FRIGIAN CAPITAL AND HEADS FOR THE MOUNTAIN PEAKS AND ZARKOV'S LOFTY LABORATORY--

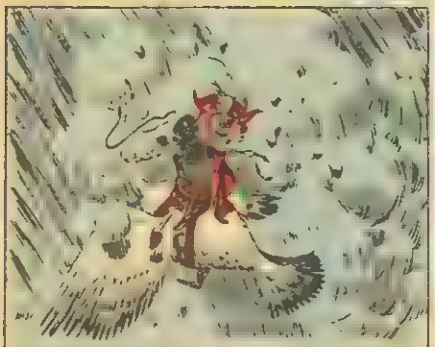


OVER THE MOAN OF THE ICY WINDS, SOUNDS A SINISTER CRACK-AS FLASH LOOKS BACK, A SECTION OF GLACIER SLOWLY LEANS OUT OVER THE PASS-

THEN, HIS EYES TRAVELING DOWNWARD, BEHOLD A LONE RIDER, RACING FROM UNDER THE IMPENDING AVALANCHE-EVEN AS HE WATCHES, THE UNKNOWN RIDER'S MOUNT STUMBLES--



WITH RECKLESS ABANDON, FLASH DASHES BACK ALONG THE TRAIL- HE SWEEPS THE LUCKLESS RIDER TO HIS SADDLE--



FLASH'S MAD DASH CARRIES THEM SAFELY PAST THE MAIN BODY OF THE THUNDERING MAELSTROM-BUT AN OFFSHOOT CATCHES THEM AND WHIRLS THEM BEFORE IT·

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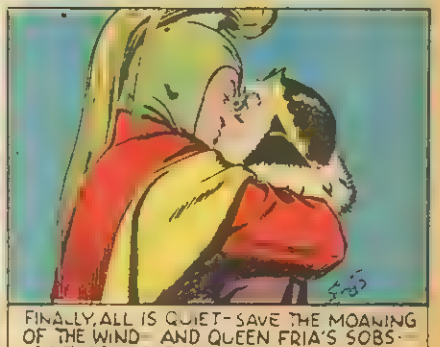

FINALLY, ALL IS QUIET-SAVE THE MOANING OF THE WIND- AND QUEEN FRIA'S SOBS· "OH, FLASH," SHE WHISPERS, "I LOVE YOU SO! MARRY ME ··PLEASE DO!" FLASH, ALONE, WITH DALE LOST TO HIM, YIELDS TO FRIA'S LURE···HE NODS AND KISSES HER SOFTLY···GENTLY

FLASH GORDON

BY ALEX RAYMOND

THINKING THAT DALE NO LONGER LOVES HIM, FLASH SETS OUT FOR ZARKOV'S LABORATORY WITH FRIA IN PURSUIT. HE SAVES HER FROM AN AVALANCHE AND, AT HER PLEA, CONSENTS TO MARRY HER—

ZARKOV SEES TWO FIGURES STRUGGLING UP THE MOUNTAIN-SIDE··· THEY ARE FLASH AND FRIA

HE HELPS THE HALF-FROZEN COUPLE INTO HIS COZY LABORATORY AND SOON REVIVES THEM WITH WARM FOOD AND DRINK. THEN, PUZZLED, HE ASKS— "WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE AT SUCH AN HOUR? WHERE IS DALE, FLASH? IS SOMETHING WRONG?"

"DALE NO LONGER CARES, ZARKOV," ANSWERS FLASH, "FRIA AND I ARE GOING TO BE MARRIED!" "NO!" CRIES ZARKOV, "YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO DALE! WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE PALACE!"

BACK AT THE PALACE, KORRO STORMS—"EVEN IF YOU'VE FORGOTTEN YOUR ROYAL HONOR, I'LL NOT LET YOU BREAK YOUR VOW! FRIA REPLIES "YOU FORGET I PROMISED THAT FLASH WOULD NEVER BE KING—NOT THAT I WOULD NEVER MARRY HIM. I SHALL ABDICATE!"

FURIOUS, DALE LEAPS AT FRIA···"YOU MISERABLE CHEAT! YOU TRICKED ME INTO PROMISING THAT I'D GIVE FLASH UP TO SAVE HIS LIFE!" SUDDENLY, FLASH KNOWS THE REASON FOR DALE'S COLDNESS TOWARD HIM····

WITH DALE SOBBING IN HIS ARMS, HE SPEAKS— "AND TO THINK THAT I DOUBTED DALE! ALTHOUGH I'M NOT WORTHY, I BEG HER FORGIVENESS. FRIA, I DEMAND THAT YOU RELEASE ME FROM MY PROMISE TO MARRY YOU!"

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FLASH GORDON

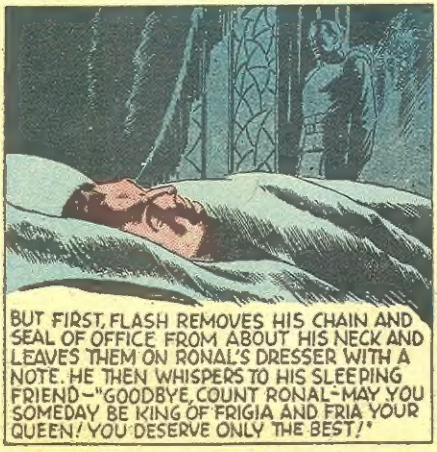
BY ALEX RAYMOND

ZARKOV STORMS INTO FRIA'S STUDY - "GOOD HEAVEN, WOMAN YOU CAN'T THROW FLASH INTO JAIL JUST BECAUSE HE LOVES DALE! IT'S SPITEFUL-SMALL-" ENOUGH, ZARKOV," INTERRUPTS FRIA, "I THANK YOU TO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!"

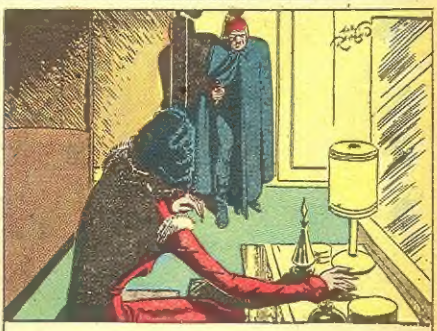
BUT THAT NIGHT FRIA IS UNABLE TO SLEEP. HER OUTRAGED FURY GIVES WAY TO SHAME AND REMORSE. AS SHE MAKES HER WAY TO FLASH'S CELL, A CLOAKED FIGURE WATCHES FROM THE SHADOWS

SHE UNLOCKS FLASH'S CELL DOOR - "YOU'RE FREE, FLASH," SHE WHISPERS, "TAKE DALE AND GO - AND DON'T COME BACK - PLEASE! I - I COULD NEVER LET YOU GO AGAIN!" FLASH PRESSES HER HAND - "THANK YOU, FRIA - YOU'RE A QUEEN - IN EVERYWAY -"

FLASH HURRIES TO THE PALACE AND TELLS DALE THAT THEY MUST LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. "YOU GET READY," HE SAYS, "I'LL GET ZARKOV AND HAVE A ROCKET SLED OUTFITTED I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU IN A HALF-HOUR"



BUT FIRST, FLASH REMOVES HIS CHAIN AND SEAL OF OFFICE FROM ABOUT HIS NECK AND LEAVES THEM ON RONAL'S DRESSER WITH A NOTE. HE THEN WHISPERS TO HIS SLEEPING FRIEND - "GOODBYE, COUNT RONAL - MAY YOU SOMEDAY BE KING OF FRIGIA AND FRIA YOUR QUEEN! YOU DESERVE ONLY THE BEST!"



Raymond can get an immediate reaction from two comics fans in his own home. His son, Alex, Jr., 9, and daughter, Lynne, 6 1/2, follow numberless strips and are frank in their criticisms of Dad's work. (Junior likes "Mandrake" better; Lynne prefers "Blondie.") The Raymonds also have another child too young for comics.

If there hadn't been a 1929, Raymond might have been a broker. It made him broke. A neighbor, Russ Westover, who draws "Tillie the Toiler," aware of Alex's skill with pen and pencil, suggested he try using it as a comic artist. Raymond did, first turned out "gag" panels, then developed an idea born of his devotion to Jules Verne—"Flash Gordon." One reward is this impressive Connecticut home. You see him with his wife.

Another reward is the appreciation of a vast public, which continuously makes its influence felt in letters. An artist can only draw a strip, a newspaper can only publish it; the public alone decides whether it continues and how long.